

By Ms. Resor, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 540) of Pamela P. Resor, Jarrett T. Barrios, Douglas W. Petersen, Michael E. Festa and other members of the General Court that provision be made relative to establishing a wildlife management commission. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 There shall be established a legislative commission for the pur-  
2 pose of evaluating and recommending non-lethal and lethal  
3 methods which shall be available to wildlife managers and the  
4 public, to successfully manage and co-exist with the following  
5 animals: beaver, muskrat, coyote and moose.

6 Said commission shall consist 13 members; two (2) of whom  
7 shall be the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on nat-  
8 ural resources and agriculture, who shall act as chairs; two (2)  
9 additional members of the state senate appointed by the president;  
10 and two (2) additional members of the house of representatives  
11 appointed by the speaker. The seven (7) remaining members shall  
12 consist of: the director of the division of wildlife, or his designee;  
13 the commissioner of highways or his designee; the commissioner  
14 of the department of conservation and recreation, or his designee,  
15 a member of the Massachusetts society for the protection against  
16 cruelty to animals; a member of the Massachusetts association of  
17 boards of health; a member of the Massachusetts sportsmen's  
18 council; and, a biologist specializing in the species of coyote,  
19 beaver, moose and muskrat, to be chosen by the chairs.

20 The commission may make use of the expertise of additional  
21 state and local officials and wildlife experts as it deems necessary  
22 to fulfill its mission.

23 The commission shall examine and evaluate the effectiveness  
24 of lethal and non-lethal techniques, including but not limited to  
25 the following: flow devices; repellents; improved signage;  
26 highway and yard fencing; public education; improved highway  
27 lighting; aversive conditioning, “Critter Proofing” techniques for  
28 homes, yards, and neighborhoods; trapping, and hunting. The  
29 commission shall report to the general court the results of its  
30 investigation and study, and its recommendations, if any for such  
31 legislation necessary to carry out its recommendations. The com-  
32 mission shall file its report with the clerks of the state senate and  
33 house of representatives, and with the joint committee on natural  
34 resources and agriculture within six months from the effective  
35 date of this act.