

By Mr. Flaherty of Cambridge, petition of Charles F. Flaherty, Jr., for legislation to establish a Massachusetts mapping, charting and surveying coordination act. Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A STATE MAPPING, CHARTING, AND SURVEYING COORDINATION ACT.

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

1 SECTION 1. Definitions as used in this act:

2 1. "Map" means representation on a plane surface, at an estab-
3 lished scale, of the physical features of all or part of the earth's
4 surface.

5 2. "Chart" means maps made primarily for use in nautical and
6 aeronautical navigation.

7 3. "Survey" means monomented surveys of third-order accu-
8 racy or better as defined in the publication *Classification and*
9 *Standards of Accuracy and General Specifications of Geodetic*
10 *Control Surveys.*

1 SECTION 2. *Establishment of Office.*

2 (a) This act establishes a state office for the coordination of all
3 mapping, charting, and surveying activities within the State to
4 serve as a conduit for information between the federal, state, and
5 local agencies. The office shall be known as the State Surveying
6 and Mapping Coordination Office. The office will provide for the
7 formation of a unified information system which will contain all of
8 the surveys, maps, charts, and the tidal data established within the
9 State by federal and state organizations.

10 (b) The office shall consist of a director and the director shall be
11 empowered to hire such staff as is necessary and authorized within
12 his budget. The director shall be appointed by the Governor with
13 the advice and consent of the [Senate]. The director shall be a
14 registered land surveyor or a cartographer from the university
15 community.

1 SECTION 3. *Jurisdiction and Guidelines.*

2 (a) The office shall establish a mechanism for the coordination
3 of mapping, charting, and surveying activities at all levels of the
4 government.

5 (b) It shall establish a unified information system containing the
6 surveys, maps, charts, and tidal data of the State as produced by
7 federal and state organizations.

8 (c) It shall establish a system of uniformity in survey methods
9 and tax mapping by adjoining jurisdictions.

10 (d) It shall assist, when requested by regional project planning
11 commissions, in solving problems involved in regional planning
12 efforts.

13 (e) It shall provide technical specifications, guidelines, and
14 assistance to state and local agencies as required in the perfor-
15 mance of their mapping, charting, and surveying activities.

1 SECTION 4. *Powers.*

2 (a) Every state agency or institution whose cooperation is neces-
3 sary for the completion of a research project shall actively assist the
4 office and comply with every reasonable and lawful request of the
5 office.

6 (b) The office is granted the authority to propose amendments
7 to this legislation and to make or rescind rules and regulations after
8 due notice and an opportunity for a public hearing, as provided in
9 chapter 30A of the General Laws, and exercise powers as may be
10 appropriate to effectuate the purposes and provisions of this act.