HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2118 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 2007

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Peter V. Kocot

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying:

Resolve relative to protecting the archaeological, geological and fossil resources of western Massachusetts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Peter V. Kocot	*1st Hampshire*
Ellen Story	*3rd Hampshire*

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2118 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 2007

By Mr. Kocot of Northampton, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 2007) of Peter V. Kocot and Ellen Story for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the preservation of the archaeological and fossil resources of the Commonwealth. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
HOUSE
, NO. *762* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Resolve relative to protecting the archaeological, geological and fossil resources of western Massachusetts.

Resolved, There is hereby established a special commission on protecting the archaeological, geological, and fossil resources of the Connecticut River Valley. Said special commission shall review existing special and general laws, may hold hearings at various locations across the Commonwealth to obtain written and oral testimony and may consult with state and federal agencies to determine if existing state laws and regulations adequately protect the archaeological, geological and fossil resources located within the Connecticut River Valley. Said special commission shall be comprised of three members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker, of which at least two shall be from a district in western Massachusetts that includes a portion of the Connecticut river that has significant fossil, archaeological or geological deposits; three members of the Senate, appointed by the President, of which at least two shall be from a district in western Massachusetts that includes the Connecticut river; four of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, of which one shall be a professor of archaeology at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, one of whom shall be a recognized authority on western Massachusetts geological formations who is a professor at a Massachusetts college or university, one whom shall be an environmental police officer who has experience with investigating the unlawful removal of archaeological, geological or fossil resources, and one of whom shall be of native American descent of a tribe indigenous to western Massachusetts; one member shall be appointed by the secretary of the commonwealth, who shall be knowledgeable of the archaeological and historic resources of the Connecticut river valley. Said special commission may receive funding through state appropriation or grants, federal appropriation or

21 grants, private gifts and donations, provided, that said special commission shall file its report
22 with the joint committee on natural resources and agriculture and the clerks of the House and
23 Senate no later than October 1, 2012.