HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 533 FILED ON: 1/18/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 260

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Thomas M. Stanley

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:

An Act relative to the conservation of Atlantic striped bass.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Thomas M. Stanley	*9th Middlesex*

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 533 FILED ON: 1/18/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 260

By Mr. Stanley of Waltham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 260) of Thomas M. Stanley that the advisory commission of the Division of Marine Fisheries adopt rules and regulations relative to the taking or possession of wild striped bass by recreational angling . Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act relative to the conservation of Atlantic striped bass.

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

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

SECTION 1. Section 110A of chapter 130 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is herby amended by striking the section in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following sentences:- (a) Commercial harvesting and sale of wild striped bass shall be prohibited in the commonwealth.

The director, with the approval of the marine fisheries advisory commission, shall adopt rules and

regulations relative to the taking or possession of wild striped bass by recreational angling,

provided that in no instance shall any rule or regulation authorize the taking or possession of

striped bass which are less than 20 inches in length or greater than 26 inches total length but less

than 40 inches total length. It is unlawful to take or possess striped bass unless the fish are whole

with head on and are between 20 and 26 inches total length or 40 inches and greater total length. (b) It is unlawful to take or possess more than one (1) striped bass each day. (c) All aquaculture raised striped bass for sale in the commonwealth shall bear the tag of the grower

20 or distributor of the fish. (d) Whoever violates any rules or regulations made pursuant to
21 this section shall be punished by a

22 fine of not less than two hundred dollars for each fish taken or possessed for the first
23 violation,

24 five hundred dollars for each fish taken or possessed for the second violation and for each

25 subsequent violation shall be fined one thousand dollars for each fish taken or possessed
26 or

27 imprisoned not more than sixty days or both. No part of any fine imposed for the taking
28 or

29 possession of any striped bass in violation of any such regulation shall be remitted. (e)
30 SECTION 2. The striped bass quota for commercial fishing provided to the Commonwealth of
31 Massachusetts by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission shall not be added to
32 recreational fishing quotas. Said quota shall be set aside for conservation and the Director of the
33 Division of Marine Fisheries shall use his best efforts in working with the Commission to see
34 that the amount of this quota is not given to other states but remains the property of the
35 Commonwealth to be used for conservation of striped bass.