



THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

July 13, 2016

Senate President Stanley Rosenberg
State House Room 332
Boston, MA 02133

Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo
State House Room 356
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Senate President Rosenberg and Speaker DeLeo:

We write to you today to respectfully request your support for an override of the Governor's veto of funding for the Buzzard's Bay Coalition's water quality monitoring program, the Baywatchers program.

The Baywatchers has received funding through the budget process by the General Court in 1999. The program is the largest coastal monitoring effort in Massachusetts covering the Bay's 30 major harbors and coves in ten municipalities from Westport to Falmouth and works with seventeen cities and towns on water pollution and fishery restoration. The \$125,000 funding provided by the Commonwealth for the Baywatchers program will help leverage more than \$500,000 in federal funds by providing a match for the National Estuary Program funding.

Section 2 in Line 2200-0100 of the FY17 State Budget passed by the General Court identified \$125,000 for coastal water quality monitoring in Buzzards Bay and Vineyard sound. Specifically, the language states, "...\$125,000 shall be expended for the Buzzards Bay Coalition for the coastal water quality monitoring in Buzzards Bay and Vineyard Sound."

We thank you for your consideration and continued support for this program and your efforts to support water quality testing and monitoring.

Sincerely,


PAUL SCHMID
State Representative


WILLIAM STRAUS
State Representative


PATRICIA HADDAD
State Representative

SARAH PEAKE
State Representative

CAROLE FIOLA
State Representative

ALAN SILVIA
State Representative

STEVEN HOWITT
State Representative

CHRISTOPHER MARKEY
State Representative

ROBERT KOCZERA
State Representative

SUSAN GIFFORD
State Representative

TIMOTHY MADDEN
State Representative

RANDY HUNT
State Representative

KAY KHAN
State Representative

DAVID VIEIRA
State Representative

MARK MONTIGNY
State Senator

MICHAEL RODRIGUES
State Senator

MARC PACHECO
State Senator

ANTONIO CABRAL
State Representative