

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
**MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**Ferrarese**

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### **Gobi Announces Release of Environmental Bond Bill**

**(BOSTON)**— State Representative Anne Gobi (D-Spencer) House Chair of the Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee has announced the release of the Environmental Bond Bill. “A goal of the Environmental Bond Bill is to preserve our natural resources and promote economic growth, while at the same time maintaining fiscal responsibility,” Commented Rep. Gobi, “We are fortunate in Massachusetts, especially in our area, to have so many wonderful natural resources that make our region a prime place to live and work. This bond bill strengthens our commitment to the environment, and at the same time does not compromise our ability to address our budget needs.”

The \$1.6 billion bill provides for numerous investments to our environment including water and air quality, fresh water fisheries restoration, land acquisition by fish and game, energy savings programs for cities and towns, assistance to schools offering agricultural programs, improving parks and beaches, reforestation, expansion of farm energy and renewable energy programs, recreational trails, assistance to municipalities to encourage recycling, reduce energy consumption, land use planning and small community water infrastructure grants.

“In writing the Bond Bill I wanted to make sure that every region would benefit and I was glad to be able to include funding for local projects,” said Rep. Gobi.

Town projects funded through the bill include:

- \$6,000,000 for the planning, engineering and related infrastructure to connect to an alternate public water supply source for the Town of Charlton.

- \$5,000,000 for a dredging and improvement of water quality on Lake Wickaboag in West Brookfield.
- \$4,400,000 for rehabilitation and improvements to Whitney Dam in Winchendon.
- \$100,000 for handicap improvements to the Dick and Paula Woodward Fishing Access Area on South Pond in Brookfield.
- \$100,000 for the design and construction of a Veteran's War Memorial in Isaac Prouty Park in Spencer.
- \$80,000 to improve water quality on Thompson Pond in Spencer.
- \$50,000 to improve water quality at Small Pond also known as Lower Stiles or Little Stiles Pond in Spencer and Leicester.

The Environmental Bond Bill is now anticipated to be reviewed by the House Bonding Committee.

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