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PRESS RELEASE

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Gobi Named to DCR Special Commission

BOSTON- **Senator Anne Gobi (D-Spencer)** announced today that she has been named to the legislative Special Commission studying potential changes to the management of our public lands here in the Commonwealth. Established in the Fiscal Year 2020 budget cycle, the commission formed will be tasked with studying and recommending ways for the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to improve the management, operations, and asset condition of the natural, cultural, and recreational resources held by the department.

A staunch supporter of outdoor activity, serving as Senate Chair on the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture in addition to her role as Co-Chair of the Massachusetts Sportsmen's Caucus, Senator Gobi brings a wealth of experience to the commission, and an understanding of the various needs that the users of outdoor public spaces require. Gobi had this to say on her appointment, "I have a deep appreciation for our natural resources, our parks and the people who work in those parks. I also know that we have a right to use those resources in a responsible way. Maintaining access while balancing conservation is possible and necessary, and I look forward to working on this commission to strengthen stewardship of these lands for future generations."

The Commission will be chaired by the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Kathleen Theoharides, and will include the secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, the DCR Commissioner, and the chair of the DCR Stewardship Council or their designees, along with seven representatives appointed by the Governor. The commission will file their report of findings and recommendations to the Clerks of the House and Senate as well as the House and Senate Ways and Means.

In addition to her role on this commission, Senator Gobi has been appointed and accepted roles on the Mosquito Control Task Force, the Holyoke Soldiers Home Special Commission, and the

Ocean Acidification Commission for the current and upcoming year. For more information, please contact the Senator's office by email at Anne.Gobi@MASenate.gov.

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