



# Three Bays Preservation, Inc.

*Preserve • Maintain • Protect*

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Executive Director

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Program Manager

February 5, 2008

Representative David L. Flynn,  
House Chair, Joint Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures  
and State Assets  
Room 466  
State House, Boston, MA 02133

Re: Proposed Chapter 40T (H. 159 and S. 146)

I am writing you today in support of legislation filed to create Chapter 40T, which would allow Massachusetts communities easier access to special assessment bond financing. Three Bays Preservation has been strong advocates for improved coastal water quality and the implementation of comprehensive wastewater planning for many years. In order to fund these infrastructure installations and improvements municipalities will need a variety of options for funding.

Since federal and state monies for these projects was halted in the mid 1980's towns have been struggling to fund wastewater facilities to keep pace with rapid new development. Title V septic systems, which are allowed under current health laws, do not protect the coastal ecosystems and drinking water supplies of the sandy Cape Cod watersheds.

Without funding sources such as impact fees, local options taxes or a larger portion of the sales tax returning to the Cape there are currently limited sources to pay for this infrastructure. The designated districts proposed under this legislation would enable communities to build local solutions to this problem that are accepted by the residents of that district. This is an important step in tackling this complex pollution problem.

We praise the Legislature for developing this innovative financing program and ask you to support the creation of Chapter 40T

Sincerely,

Lindsey B. Counsell  
Executive Director