



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LEGISLATURE ADOPTS WATER LEGISLATION FOR AREA TOWNS

State Representative William M. Straus (D.-Mattapoisett) announced today that the Massachusetts House of Representatives and the Senate gave final approval this week to a bill that will allow the Towns of Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Marion and Rochester to convey well field and water supply lands to the Mattapoisett River Valley Water District.

The District, which was approved by the Legislature in 2004 in legislation filed by Bill Straus, was created to oversee the sharing of water supply resources between the four towns with the intent to provide a sustainable, cost effective and safe water supply for the future.

This legislation will allow the Mattapoisett River Valley Water District to obtain the necessary lands for a new treatment facility that will provide connections between the four towns to allow for the efficient transfer of drinking water. The facility will help the towns to meet future water demands without developing additional sources and the District will be responsible for operation and maintenance of the treatment facility and the pipelines.

“I’m optimistic that the Governor will sign this bill into law,” said Representative Straus. He then added, “The sharing of resources among the towns is a proactive approach that will ensure that our water supply will be sustainable for many years to come. The local officials in the towns are to be commended for their foresight.”

The legislation was filed at the State House by Representative Straus and Senators Montigny, Pacheco and Menard.

The bill will now be sent to the Governor for his approval before becoming law.

