

BARNSTABLE COUNTY
In the Year Two Thousand and Twenty

RESOLUTION 20-07

Whereas, in response to Covid-19's impact on seafood markets, Governor Baker authorized the Massachusetts Department of Marine Fisheries to allow the use of retail boat permits for fish, lobsters, and crabs which has been a lifeline for many fishing families.

Whereas, there are legitimate health concerns in the warm weather months related to the potential of vibrio infection of shellfish, and colder weather mitigates this risk. State vibrio control is in effect from May 21-October 18, 2020.

Whereas, shellfish products are almost exclusively consumed in restaurants and shellfisher's sales to restaurants has been severely limited by the pandemic.

Whereas, allowing Massachusetts shellfishers to safely sell directly to local consumers, as a pilot program, will help them build a more diversified and robust market in a time of need.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates: Calls upon Governor Charles Baker, by delivering a copy of this resolution and a letter authorized by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates via certified mail and email, to ask that in his role as chief safety officer of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, he supports Massachusetts shellfishers growers and harvesters by authorizing a pilot program and safe temporary allowance of Massachusetts shellfishers to sell directly to consumers from October 19, 2020 to May 20, 2021.

The foregoing Resolution 20-07 was adopted by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates, by a roll call vote of 78.47% voting "YES", 20.60% voting "NO", and 0.93% "ABSENT" at the regular virtual meeting held on November 4, 2020.

Attested by:

**Janice O'Connell, Clerk
Assembly of Delegates**