

Massachusetts lawmaker wants to name official state dinosaur

January 5 2021

A Massachusetts state lawmaker is asking for the public's help to select an official state dinosaur.

State Rep. Jack Lewis [tweeted](#) Monday that he plans on filing the legislation on Jan. 15, adding that the effort is a good way for children to learn about the legislative process.

But first, the Framingham Democrat is asking residents to [select](#) from one of two [dinosaur species](#) discovered in Massachusetts.

Podokesaurus holyokensis, which means "swift-footed lizard of Holyoke," was first discovered near Mount Holyoke in 1910 by Mignon Talbot, the first woman to name and describe a dinosaur, according to Lewis. The [species](#) was 3 to 6 feet (around 1 to 2 meters) in length, weighed approximately 90 pounds (40 kilograms), and was estimated to run 9 to 12 mph (14 to 19 kph).

Anchisaurus polyzelus, which means "much sought after near lizard" was discovered in 1855 in Springfield. They were more than 6 [feet](#) long and about 60 to 75 pounds (27 to 34 kilograms).

Paleontologists have served as consultants for the project, he said.

Twelve states already have official state [dinosaurs](#), Lewis said.

© 2021 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not

be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

Citation: Massachusetts lawmaker wants to name official state dinosaur (2021, January 5)
retrieved 24 April 2024 from

<https://phys.org/news/2021-01-massachusetts-lawmaker-state-dinosaur.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.