
By Mr. Timilty, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1649) of Joseph F. Timilty for legislation to require regulations for citizen participation as a condition for receiving block grants of federal monies for community development. Urban Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Five.

AN ACT REQUIRING REGULATIONS FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 3 of Chapter 23B of the General Laws hereby
2 amended by adding to it the following subsection:—

3 (u) issue regulations setting mandatory standards for citi-
4 zen participation required of cities and towns as a condition
5 for receiving block grants of federal monies for the purpose of
6 community development under Title One of the Housing and
7 Community Development Act of 1974.

8 Such standards shall require applicants for federal monies
9 under the Act to: Provide citizens with adequate information
10 concerning the amount of funds available for proposed com-
11 munity development and housing activities, the range of activ-
12 ities that may be undertaken, and other important program
13 requirements; hold at least two public hearings to obtain the
14 views of citizens on community development and housing
15 needs; and provide citizens an adequate opportunity to partici-
16 pate in the development of the application and in the develop-
17 ment of any revisions, changes, or amendments.

18 Furthermore, such standards will set down the manner for
19 recognition of representative citizen groups; for requirements
20 for furnishing technical assistance to such groups of citizens
21 in order to allow independent and informed judgments for the
22 recommendations of such groups for the use of federal monies
23 under provisions of the Act; the standards for negotiation be-
24 tween such citizen groups and municipal officials applying for
25 such federal monies; and the standards for appeal of disputes
26 to the department.

