

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1402

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By Mr. Olson of Ashland, petition of Charles W. Olson for legislation to provide for election or appointment of advisory or finance committees in towns. Municipal Finance.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Eight.

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AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT  
OF APPROPRIATION, ADVISORY OR FINANCE COMMITTEES  
IN TOWNS.

*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 sixteen of chapter thirty-nine of the Gen-  
2 eral Laws, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition,  
3 is hereby amended by inserting after the word "ap-  
4 pointment" in the third and in the eighth lines the  
5 words: — or election, — and by inserting after the  
6 word "appointed" in the sixth and in the ninth  
7 lines the words: — or elected, — so as to read as fol-  
8 lows: — *Section 16.* Every town whose valuation for  
9 the purpose of apportioning the state tax exceeds one  
10 million dollars shall, and any other town may, by  
11 by-law provide for the appointment or election and  
12 duties of appropriation, advisory or finance commit-  
13 tees, who shall consider any or all municipal questions  
14 for the purpose of making reports or recommendations

15 to the town; and such by-laws may provide that  
16 committees so appointed or elected may continue in  
17 office for terms not exceeding three years from the  
18 date of appointment or election.

19 In every town having a committee appointed or  
20 elected under authority of this section, such com-  
21 mittee, or the selectmen if authorized by a by-law of  
22 the town, and, in any town not having such a com-  
23 mittee, the selectmen, shall submit a budget at the  
24 annual town meeting.