

By Mr. Saltonstall, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 819) of William L. Saltonstall, Allan R. McKinnon, Richard H. Demers and Robert D. Wetmore for legislation to enable cities and town to establish or continue local growth policy committees. Local Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ENABLING CITIES AND TOWNS TO ESTABLISH OR CONTINUE LOCAL GROWTH POLICY COMMITTEES.

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

1 Chapter 40 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
 2 inserting after section 8G the following new section: —
 3 *Section 8H.* A city ordinance or a town by by-law may
 4 establish a growth policy committee which shall have as its
 5 purpose the initiation or continuation of a locally-oriented
 6 participatory planning process to enable representatives from
 7 various interest groups in the municipality to evaluate the
 8 effects of growth and development patterns on the community,
 9 to formulate future growth and development goals which
 10 meet the needs of the diversity of residents in the community,
 11 to coordinate local growth and development goals with the
 12 goals of neighboring municipalities and with regional needs,
 13 and to contribute to the formulation of state growth and
 14 development policies and objectives. Unless the city or town
 15 provides otherwise, the committee shall be composed of the
 16 mayor of a city, except in the case of a city with a Plan E
 17 charter in which case it shall be the city manager, or the
 18 chairman of the board of selectmen in the case of a town,
 19 and the following public officials or their designees: the
 20 chairman of the planning board, if one exists; the chairman
 21 of the conservation commission, if one exists; the chairman
 22 of the housing authority, if one exists; the chairman of the
 23 redevelopment authority, if one exists; the chairman of the
 24 board of health, if one exists; and the city or town planner,

25 if one exists. In addition there may be five additional mem-
26 bers representative of disparate social, economic and environ-
27 mental interests, to be appointed by the selectmen, in the
28 case of a town, or to be appointed with the consent of the
29 council by the mayor in the case of a city, except in the case
30 of a city with a Plan E charter, in which case said appoint-
31 ments shall be made by the city manager. The local growth
32 policy committee may establish subcommittees with additional
33 membership to represent various geographic areas within the
34 community. Said committee may from time to time hold
35 public hearings, and may in the course of its activities request
36 information from municipal boards, commissions, depart-
37 ments or agencies and may receive public and private funds.
38 Said committee shall submit an annual report to the city or
39 town and shall send a copy thereof to the appropriate
40 regional planning agency and to the office of state planning.
41 The ordinance or by-law establishing said committee may be
42 repealed in the same manner by which it was enacted.