
By Mr. Saltonstall, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate No. 837) of William L. Saltonstall, other members of the General Court, the Homebuilders Association of Massachusetts, by Garen Bresnick and another for legislation to provide for the preparation of economic impact reports on certain works, projects and activities. Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PREPARATION OF ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORTS ON CERTAIN WORKS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES.

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 1. The first paragraph of section 62 of chapter 30
2 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter
3 257 of the acts of 1974, is hereby amended by adding the
4 following: —

5 If said project could have a substantial economic impact, as
6 defined by the secretary of manpower affairs or the secretary
7 of communities and development, on the cities or towns
8 affected by said project, either of said secretaries may require
9 a statement of economic effect to be included in the environ-
10 mental impact report. The mayor, city council, board of
11 selectmen, planning board, conservation commission, or ten
12 taxpayers of a city or town affected by such a project may
13 request either of said secretaries to require the inclusion of
14 such a statement in said report.

1 SECTION 2. The second paragraph of said section 62 is
2 hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence the
3 following: —

4 Any private person, firm or corporation may request the
5 secretary of manpower affairs or the secretary of communi-
6 ties and development to require a statement of economic
7 effect to be included in said environmental impact report.

1 SECTION 3. Said section 62 is hereby amended by inserting
2 after paragraph four the following new paragraph: —

3 A statement of economic effect, if deemed necessary by

4 either the secretary of manpower affairs or the secretary of
5 communities and development, shall include such of the
6 following as said secretary may require: a cost-benefit
7 analysis of the effect of the proposed project on the economy
8 of the cities or towns affected by said project and of the com-
9 monwealth as a whole, including changes in the number of
10 state and local residents employed, in the wages and salaries
11 of state and local residents, in state and local tax revenues,
12 in state and local expenditures including expenditures for
13 services and resource management, in state and local con-
14 sumer prices, in statewide and local business income, and in
15 contributions to and use of state and local resources; and
16 alternatives to the proposed project and their economic con-
17 sequences to the commonwealth and to said cities and towns.
18 Every reasonable effort shall be made to limit the cost of
19 preparing such statements consonant with obtaining the neces-
20 sary information.

1 SECTION 4. Said section 62 is hereby further amended by
2 striking out the fifth paragraph and inserting in place thereof
3 the following paragraph: —

4 The secretary of each executive office shall promulgate
5 rules and regulations approved by the secretary of environ-
6 mental affairs insofar as they relate to the natural environ-
7 ment and by the secretaries of manpower affairs and com-
8 munities and development insofar as they relate to the econ-
9 omy to carry out the purposes of this section which shall be
10 applicable to all agencies, departments, boards, commissions,
11 authorities or instrumentalities within each of such executive
12 offices and which in the case of the natural environment shall
13 conform with the requirements of the National Environmental
14 Policy Act, Public Law 91-190, and amendments thereto. Any
15 draft report, final report, and all written comments required
16 by said regulations shall be public documents. Said reports as
17 they relate to the natural environment shall be submitted to
18 the secretary of environmental affairs and those that relate
19 to the economic environment shall be submitted to the secre-
20 taries of manpower affairs and communities and development
21 who shall issue written statements indicating whether or not
22 in their judgment said report adequately and properly comply
23 with the provisions of this section.