

By Mr. Nagle of Northampton, petition of William P. Nagle, Jr., and Stanley C. Rosenberg (with the approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize the city of Northampton to establish "residents only" parking areas within said city. Local Affairs. [Local Approval Received.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF "RESIDENTS ONLY" PARKING AREAS IN THE CITY OF NORTHAMPTON.

*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 City Council of the City of Northampton  
2 shall be empowered to enact ordinances which shall establish one  
3 or more parking districts within said city in which parking on  
4 public ways shall be restricted to residents only. Said "residents  
5 only" parking districts shall be created only in areas of high  
6 population concentration where the proximity of public  
7 educational, religious, or health facilities make the parking of  
8 vehicles by parties other than residents common, convenient, and  
9 consistent. Other factors such as the lack of off-street parking,  
10 width and grade of a street, and concentration of multi-unit  
11 buildings should also be present.

1 SECTION 2. Any such ordinance may (1) designate one or  
2 more districts in which "resident only" parking shall be in effect,  
3 (2) authorize the issuance of permits, stickers, placards, or other  
4 means of identification of "resident" vehicles, including an  
5 application process for same, (3) set fees for said permits and fines  
6 for violations of "residents only" district parking regulations, (4)  
7 include provisions for "visitor" parking, delivery vehicles,  
8 service/repair vehicles and other temporary parking categories,  
9 (5) describe signage and other methods of identifying "residents  
10 only" parking districts, (6) designate hours and dates when

11 “residents only” parking will be effective, and (7) address such  
12 other administrative or enforcement issues as the City Council  
13 may deem necessary. Any such ordinance may delegate all the  
14 powers enumerated above except that contained in clause (1) to  
15 designate “residents only” districts to a board, committee, or  
16 officer of the City of Northampton.

1 SECTION 3. Any such ordinance shall provide that the City  
2 Council shall refer any ordinance restricting parking on a public  
3 way, or any portion thereof, to the Planning Board, the Board  
4 of Public Works, the Parking Commission, and the City Council  
5 Committee under whose jurisdiction parking issues have been  
6 placed. No such ordinance shall be enacted until each of the above  
7 entities has filed a recommendation with the City Council or forty-  
8 five (45) days have elapsed since the referral by the Council.

1 SECTION 4. Any such ordinance shall not be adopted until  
2 a public hearing is held on said ordinance by the City Council  
3 or a committee thereof. Notice of said hearing shall be posted in  
4 a public place and published in a newspaper of general circulation  
5 in the City at least twice in two (2) separate weeks, the first time  
6 to be not less than fourteen (14) days before the scheduled date  
7 of the hearing. Actual notice shall be given by certified mail to  
8 all owners of property, as shown on the latest assessors’ records,  
9 abutting the portion of a public way for which said “residents  
10 only” parking restriction will be effective. If the City Council is  
11 presented with a petition signed by fifty per cent (50%) or more  
12 of said property owners, a two-thirds (2/3) majority shall be  
13 required to enact the proposed ordinance.

1 SECTION 5. For purposes of this act, a motor vehicle  
2 qualifying for “resident” status permitting parking in an area  
3 restricted to “residents only” parking by an ordinance enacted  
4 hereunder shall be registered under Chapter 90 of the General  
5 Laws as principally garaged in the City of Northampton and  
6 owned or used by a person residing in such area. Nothing herein  
7 shall authorize the assignment of any specific space to any person  
8 or vehicle. Nor shall any ordinance enacted hereunder supersede  
9 any statute related to handicapped parking.