

HOUSE No. 2634

By Mr Melia of Boston, petition of John F. Melia for legislation to require planning boards in cities and towns. Urban Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Nine.

AN ACT REQUIRING A PLANNING BOARD IN ALL CITIES AND 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 1. Chapter 41 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by striking out section 70, as most recently amended
3 by section 1 of chapter 273 of the acts of 1957, and inserting
4 in place thereof the following section:—

5 *Section 70.* Every city and town within the commonwealth
6 shall have a planning board, the members of which, in cities,
7 shall be elected, and in towns, shall be elected at the annual
8 town meeting; provided, that the members of said board shall
9 be elected for terms of such length and so arranged that the
10 term of at least one member will expire each year and that their
11 successors shall be elected for terms of five years each. Any
12 member of such board may be removed for cause, after a public
13 hearing, by the city council or the board of selectmen, and a
14 vacancy occurring otherwise than by expiration of a term shall
15 be filled in the same manner as provided for herein for original
16 election. Such a board shall elect annually a chairman and a
17 clerk from among its own number, and may employ experts and
18 clerical and other assistants. It may appoint a custodian of its
19 plan and records, who may be the city engineer or town clerk.
20 Said board shall have the powers and duties as set forth in sec-
21 tion eighty-one A.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter 41 is hereby further amended by
 2 striking out section 81A, as most recently amended by sec-
 3 tion 2 of chapter 276 of the acts of 1961, and inserting in place
 4 thereof the following section:—

5 *Section 81A.* Every city and town within the commonwealth
 6 shall establish a planning board according to the provisions of
 7 section seventy, and each planning board so established shall
 8 consist of not less than five nor more than nine members. Said
 9 board shall have the powers and duties as set forth in section
 10 eighty-one B.