

HOUSE No. 4639

By Mr. Guilmette of Lawrence, petition of Harry Weinroth for legislation relative to district planning commissions. Urban Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO DISTRICT PLANNING COMMISSIONS.

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 40B is hereby amended by striking out section 4, as
2 most recently amended by chapter 644 of the acts of 1971,
3 and inserting in place thereof the following section: —

4 *Section 4.* In each planning district so established there shall
5 be a district planning commission consisting of one member
6 from each city and town voting to join such district. Addi-
7 tional members shall be appointed from each city and town
8 who have joined the district planning commission when their
9 community population exceeds twenty thousand persons. Using
10 the latest accepted federal decennial census each member city
11 or town shall be permitted to have a maximum of five voting
12 members on the district planning commission, one member for
13 each additional twenty thousand persons. The first member of
14 each city or town appointed to such district planning commis-
15 sion shall consist of a member of that city or town planning
16 board. Each additional member which is permitted according to
17 the population criteria shall be appointed annually by the
18 mayor in a city, confirmed by the council, or by the selectmen
19 in a town. In those cities or towns whose population provided
20 for additional members to the district planning commission
21 such appointees may or may not be planning board members,
22 and the commissioner of community affairs or his designee
23 shall be a member ex officio without the right to vote. There

24 may be a designee for the local planning board member who
25 may or may not be a planning board member, appointed
26 annually by the mayor in a city, confirmed by the council, or
27 by the selectmen in a town, who may attend meetings of the
28 district planning commission, and who shall assume the rights
29 and duties of the planning board member in his absence. In a
30 member town which has not established a planning board, the
31 selectmen shall annually appoint a member of the district
32 planning commission. Such district planning commission shall
33 annually elect a chairman, treasurer and clerk from among its
34 members and may elect an assistant treasurer. The treasurer
35 and assistant treasurer shall give the commission a bond, with a
36 surety company authorized to transact business in the com-
37 monwealth as surety, for the faithful performance of their
38 duties in such sums and upon such conditions as the commis-
39 sion may require. The said commission may employ experts
40 and clerical and other assistants. All meetings of the commis-
41 sion shall be held at the call of the chairman and at such other
42 times as the commission may determine.