

By Mr. Simons of Montague, petition of Thomas G. Simons, John W. Olver and Jonathan L. Healy relative to establishing a Franklin County economic development regional commission. Counties.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A FRANKLIN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL COMMISSION.

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 425 of the Acts of 1963, as most recently amended by
2 Chapter 1191 of the Acts of 1973, is hereby further amended by
3 inserting at the end thereof, the following three new
4 paragraphs:—

5 The Franklin County Planning Department may, by an
6 affirmative vote of the County Commissioners after consultation
7 with the Franklin County Planning Board, agree to act as, and
8 to assume the duties, obligations, and responsibilities of an
9 economic development regional commission for as many of the
10 towns within its area of jurisdiction as it may deem proper and
11 logical, subject to the availability of funds for such purpose;
12 provided, however, that said towns shall be eligible for
13 designation as an economic development region, hereinafter
14 called the region, in accordance with the provisions of the Public
15 Works and Economic Development Act of 1965. Additional
16 eligible towns may be added to or deleted from the region by
17 affirmative vote of the Commissioners after consultation with
18 the Franklin County Planning Board.

19 The Franklin County Planning Board members of towns
20 comprising the region shall constitute the economic development
21 regional commission. In addition, such technical and advisory
22 committees as are necessary and required by the Public Works
23 and Economic Development Act of 1965 may be appointed in

24 accordance with the provisions of said Act for the purpose of
25 providing advice and guidance to the region.

26 The economic development regional commission may prepare
27 economic development programs which shall be public records
28 and may be changed or supplemented from time to time by a
29 majority vote of the representatives of the towns comprising the
30 region. Said regional commission may conduct feasibility and
31 implementation studies for public facilities and programs and
32 develop public and private development projects which are
33 consistent with and which aid in implementing projects which
34 are consistent with and which aid in implementing the
35 objectives of said commission. Said regional commission may
36 advertise and otherwise promote the implementation of its plans
37 and recommendations for the economic and industrial develop-
38 ment of the region and may sponsor conferences, institutes,
39 seminars and training programs on behalf of the region.