

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133  
(617) 727-3600

WILLIAM F. WELD  
GOVERNOR

MARGO PAUL CELLUCCI  
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

July 12, 1996

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article II, Section 8, Paragraph 1, Clause (2) of the Amendments to the Constitution, as amended by Article LXXXIX, I am filing for your consideration the attached legislation entitled, "An Act Validating the Proceedings of the Annual Town Election held in the Town of Chelmsford on April Second, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Six."

Representative Carol Clevon and the Town of Chelmsford have asked that this legislation be filed to validate an amendment to the Chelmsford Town Charter, notwithstanding the Town's inadvertent failure to follow the statutory charter amendment procedures in the proper sequence. The proposed charter change provides for the Chelmsford Sewer Commission to be dissolved upon completion of the Town sewer project, rather than on January 1, 2005 as provided currently in the charter.

The proposed charter change was approved unanimously at the Chelmsford Town Meeting held on October 19, 1995, and at the Annual Town Election held on April 2, 1996, by a vote of 4,645 to 1,054. However, special legislation is necessary to validate the amendment because the Town obtained the Attorney General's opinion confirming its legality subsequent to ballot approval, rather than prior to the election as required by M.G.L. c. 43B.

I urge your favorable consideration of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W. F. Weld".

William F. Weld  
Governor

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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AN ACT VALIDATING THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION HELD IN THE TOWN OF CHELMSFORD ON APRIL SECOND, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-SIX.

*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. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or  
2 special law to the contrary, all acts and proceedings of the town of  
3 Chelmsford at the town election held on April second, nineteen  
4 hundred and ninety-six and all actions taken pursuant thereto,  
5 regarding the amendment of Part VIII, Section 8-5(1) of the Town  
6 Charter, are hereby ratified, validated and confirmed, to the same  
7 extent as if the statutory charter amendment procedures had been  
8 complied with.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.