

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, petition of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., Paul C. Casey and Richard R. Tisei (by vote of the town) that the town of Reading be authorized to establish an affordable housing trust fund. Local Affairs. [Local Approval Received.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and One.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF READING TO ESTABLISH AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 The town of Reading may establish a separate fund to be  
2 known as the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for the purpose of  
3 creating or preserving affordable housing by the town of Reading,  
4 the Reading housing authority or a housing trust, community  
5 development corporation or similar entity created under the laws  
6 of the commonwealth for the purpose of creating, maintaining or  
7 operating affordable housing.

8 All expenditures from the Fund shall be used for low or mod-  
9 erate income housing as defined in section 20 of chapter 40B of  
10 the General Laws. The funds may specifically be used to:

- 11 (a) purchase and improve land;
- 12 (b) purchase dwelling units;
- 13 (c) develop new or rehabilitate existing dwelling units for pur-  
14 chase or rental by low and moderate income housing purchasers  
15 or tenants; and
- 16 (d) preserve existing subsidized housing inventory as main-  
17 tained by the department of housing and community development  
18 pursuant to chapter 40B.

19 Expenditures shall follow an allocation plan submitted by the  
20 board of selectmen annually to town meeting at the annual town  
21 meeting, and approved by town meeting. The allocation plan may  
22 be amended by town meeting at any special town meeting. The

23 board of selectmen may request the advice of the Reading housing  
24 authority, the community planning and development commission,  
25 and others in developing any allocation plan. The allocation plan  
26 shall be a general plan of how funds from the fund will be  
27 expended over the next fiscal year, and a report on how funds  
28 were spent during the previous fiscal year.

29 All expenditures from the fund, including funds for capital pur-  
30 chases of land or buildings, shall be in accordance with the alloca-  
31 tion plan and approved by a majority vote of the full combined  
32 memberships of the board of selectmen and the Reading housing  
33 authority.

34 The fund may also be the repository of any allocation for  
35 affordable housing purposes made under the Community Preser-  
36 vation Act, should the town vote to adopt the act.

37 The town treasurer shall be the custodian of the fund and shall  
38 invest the funds in the manner authorized by sections 55, 55A  
39 and 55B of chapter 44 of the General Laws. Any income or pro-  
40 ceeds received from the investment of funds shall be credited to  
41 and become part of the fund.