

By Mr. Robinson of Melrose, petition of William G. Robinson and the members of the General Court relative to joint municipal agreements. Local Affairs.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO JOINT MUNICIPAL AGREEMENTS.

*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 General Laws are hereby amended by adding after Chapter  
2 49A the following new chapter: —

3 **CHAPTER 49B**  
4 **JOINT MUNICIPAL AGREEMENTS**

5 *Section 55.* A municipality and any other governmental entity  
6 may enter into an agreement for any purpose that each of the  
7 parties could accomplish within its own territory.

8 “Any governmental entity” includes the commonwealth, a mu-  
9 nicipality, a city or town, regional and other special districts, and  
10 counties.

11 *Section 56.* Joint municipal agreements shall specify:  
12 a. the purpose for which the agreement is made,  
13 b. the services to be provided to each party,  
14 c. the financial and other obligations of each party, the manner  
15 in which funds will be acquired and spent, and procedures for an  
16 annual audit,  
17 d. the duration of the agreement, and  
18 e. the terms under which any party may withdraw from the  
19 agreement.

20 *Section 57.* Joint municipal agreements may include such other  
21 terms and conditions as the parties wish to include.

22 *Section 58.* The joint municipal agreement may create an inde-

23 pendent entity to carry out the terms and conditions of the agree-  
24 ment. The entity shall be deemed a municipal corporation within  
25 the limits established in the agreement. The agreement shall not  
26 permit the independent entity to act without regular and direct  
27 opportunities for control by the participating municipality.

28 *Section 59.* Joint municipal agreements shall not create any  
29 powers, services, or obligations not consistent with the law govern-  
30 ing each of the participants.

31 *Section 60.* No joint municipal agreement shall take effect until  
32 approved by the legislature body of all participants. The Governor  
33 is hereby empowered to give any approval for participation by the  
34 commonwealth.