

HOUSE No. 29

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF COMMUNITIES AND DEVELOPMENT

100 CAMBRIDGE STREET, ROOM 1404

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02202

The Honorable Michael J. Connolly, *Secretary of the Commonwealth*
State House, Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Dear Secretary Connolly:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 33 of Chapter 30 of the General Laws, I hereby submit the attached legislative recommendations by the Executive Office of Communities and Development for consideration during the 1990 legislative session.

Sincerely,

AMY S. ANTHONY,
Secretary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety.

LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF COMMUNITIES AND DEVELOPMENT

1. AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PUBLIC DEED RESTRICTIONS TO RETAIN AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

During the past six years, the Commonwealth provided funds for the production of over 16,000 units of mixed income, which is being developed by both private profit and non-profit developers. This housing represents a significant commitment on the part of the Commonwealth to providing affordable housing, both rental and home-ownership, for all our citizens.

In order to ensure that this housing remains affordable over time, each of these projects is subject to use restrictions. To help ensure these restrictions will be enforceable in future years, we recommend the attached legislation which will treat these restrictions as restrictions that "run with the land". This is currently the case for conservation, historic preservation, and agricultural preservation restrictions which are other types of public restrictions. The proposed legislation utilizes the system currently in place for these restrictions.

In addition, the proposed legislation would allow local housing authorities to have the right of first refusal in cases where they are purchasing units in properties that are being converted to condominiums. The housing authorities would retain these units as affordable housing for low income households. This necessitates an amendment to the state's condominium conversion law.

2. AN ACT RELATIVE TO HOUSING INFORMATION.

In order to help enhance the quality of life for persons living in public or subsidized housing, we recommend the attached legislation which would allow housing authorities to share necessary information regarding applicants for such housing. This legislation would also allow them to share and exchange information with other housing entities providing such housing.