

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4194**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Margaret R. Scarsdale and John J. Cronin***

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*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the charter in the town of Groton.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Margaret R. Scarsdale</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>	<i>11/9/2023</i>
<i>John J. Cronin</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>11/9/2023</i>

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By Representative Scarsdale of Pepperell and Senator Cronin, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4194) of Margaret R. Scarsdale and John J. Cronin (by vote of the town) relative to the charter in the town of Groton. Municipalities and Regional Government. [Local Approval Received.]

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
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An Act relative to the charter in the town of Groton.

*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.           The charter of the town of Groton, which is on file in the office of the  
2           archivist of the commonwealth as provided in section 12 of chapter 43B of the general laws, is  
3           hereby amended by striking out section 6.4.1 and inserting in place thereof the following:

4           6.4.1 Budget Process - The Select Board, the town manager, the department of finance,  
5           and the finance committee shall meet annually not later than October 31 to determine the  
6           budgetary goals for the subsequent fiscal year. The town manager shall, after that meeting but  
7           not later than January 31, submit to the finance committee and the Select Board a proposed  
8           budget for the next fiscal year that shall be

9           accompanied by a budget message, a summary, and supporting documents that follow the  
10          agreed-upon budget goals. The proposed budget shall be balanced.

11          Section 2.           This act shall take effect upon its passage.

12           provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form  
13 only to the bill, unless the Select Board approves amendments thereto before enactment by the  
14 General Court, which amendments shall be within the public purposes of said petition; or to take  
15 any other action relative thereto.