

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4994**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***John Barrett, III***

*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 to amend the Williamstown Town Charter by making all gender references therein gender neutral.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>John Barrett, III</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>	<i>7/7/2022</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4994**

By Mr. Barrett of North Adams, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4994) of John Barrett, III (by vote of the town) for legislation to amend the charter of the town of Williamstown by making all gender references therein gender neutral. Municipalities and Regional Government. [Local Approval Received.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**

An Act to amend the Williamstown Town Charter by making all gender references therein gender neutral.

*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 Williamstown, which is on file in the office of  
2 the archivist of the Commonwealth, as provided in section 12 of Chapter 43B of the general  
3 laws, is hereby amended by striking out the words “Board of Selectmen”, each time it appears,  
4 and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following words “Select Board”.

5 SECTION 2. Said charter is hereby further amended by striking out the word  
6 “Selectman” and inserting in place thereof the following words "Select Board Member”.

7 SECTION 3. Said charter is hereby further amended by striking out the word  
8 “Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the following words “Select Board Members”.

9 SECTION 4. Said charter is hereby further amended by replacing the word “Chairman”  
10 with “Chairperson”, in each and every instance in which said terms appear, and to replace all

11 gendered terms with gender-neutral terms, without changing the meaning of said terms; or to  
12 take any action related thereto.

13 SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage.