

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1459**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***James E. Vallee and Karen E. Spilka***

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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 providing a simplified procedure for municipal acceptance of subdivision roads in the city known as the town of Franklin.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>James E. Vallee</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol, and Middlesex</i>
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1459**

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By Representative Vallee of Franklin and Senator Spilka, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1459) of James E. Vallee, Richard J. Ross and Karen Spilka relative to providing a procedure for municipal acceptance of subdivision roads in the town of Franklin. Municipalities and Regional Government. [Local Approval Received.]

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act providing a simplified procedure for municipal acceptance of subdivision roads in the city known as the town of Franklin.

*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 Town of Franklin may employ the procedure hereinafter set out for  
2 municipal acceptance of roads constructed within a subdivision in accordance with a planning  
3 board-approved definitive plan, notwithstanding the provisions of G.L. Chapters 82 and 79 or  
4 any other general or special law. The Town of Franklin Planning Board, on request of the  
5 Franklin Town Council or a developer or on its own initiative, shall prepare a written  
6 certification that a subdivision road has been laid out and constructed in accordance with the  
7 Board's rules and regulations and the approved definitive plan. The Board shall submit its  
8 certification, together with original mylars of an acceptance plan, in required form for recording  
9 at the Registry of Deeds, and an "as-built" plan, to the Franklin Town Council. The Town  
10 Council shall hold a public hearing, after first giving written notice by first-class mail, postage  
11 prepaid, to the owner of record of each property abutting the road, as appears from municipal  
12 records, and giving notice by publication in a newspaper of local circulation at least seven days

13 prior to the hearing. The sole purpose of the public hearing shall be to determine whether it is in  
14 the public interest to accept the road as a public way. If the Franklin Town Council determines,  
15 after the public hearing, that it is in the public interest to accept the road, they shall so-cote, by a  
16 two-thirds majority, and cause to be prepared for recording at the Norfolk County Registry of  
17 Deeds an Order of Acceptance containing said vote. The Order of Acceptance, together with the  
18 original acceptance plan, shall be recorded within thirty (30) days following the vote and, upon  
19 recordation, shall operate to vest ownership in fee to the road, together with ownership of all  
20 utility, drainage access, and other easements shown, as well as all pipes, structures, and other  
21 improvements located therein, in the Town of Franklin with no additional notice or other action  
22 required. No owner or interest holder of land abutting a road so-accepted or subject to an  
23 easement shown on said plan shall have any claim for compensation against the Town on  
24 account of said acceptance.

25 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.