

HOUSE No. 3373

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

William Smitty Pignatelli

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 requiring a 180-day limit on processing home rule petitions.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>William Smitty Pignatelli</i>	<i>4th Berkshire</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>
<i>Michael F. Rush</i>	<i>Norfolk and Suffolk</i>
<i>Thomas J. Calter</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 3373

By Mr. Pignatelli of Lenox, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3373) of William Smitty Pignatelli and others relative to legislative action on petitions filed with the General Court by cities and towns. Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen
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An Act requiring a 180-day limit on processing home rule petitions.

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. Chapter 3 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section
2 8A the following section:-

3 8B. The general court shall have 180 days to enact a petition that has been filed or
4 approved by the voters of a city or town, or the mayor and city council, or other legislative body,
5 of a city, or the town meeting of a town, with respect to a law relating to that city or town,
6 provided that the petition is submitted to the general court pursuant to the provisions of Section 8
7 of Article LXXXIX of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth. The 180-day
8 period shall run from the date on which the petition was filed or approved by the city or town,
9 inclusive of weekends and holidays. If the general court fails to enact the petition within 180
10 days of that date, the petition shall expire at midnight on the 180th day and a new petition must
11 be submitted to the general court pursuant to the provisions of Section 8 of Article LXXXIX of
12 the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth prior to enactment.