

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1189**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Nine**  
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An Act relative to accessory apartments..

*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. Notwithstanding any general or special law, or regulation to the contrary, a  
2           municipality that adopts a zoning ordinance or by-law to allow the construction of accessory  
3           apartments shall be permitted to count accessory apartment units toward that municipality’s  
4           subsidized housing inventory so long as the occupant meets the income-eligibility standards  
5           determined by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development; and provided further  
6           that evidence of income verification is provided to the department of housing and community  
7           development upon issuance of a building permit for the accessory apartment and annually  
8           thereafter; and provided further that said accessory apartments shall not be required to be subject  
9           to the provisions of the affirmative marketing plan, including the prohibition against renting to  
10          family members and relatives; and provided further that accessory apartments shall not be  
11          subject to deed restrictions.

12           For the purposes of this section, an accessory apartment shall be defined as an additional,  
13          separate, but connected dwelling unit, which contains facilities for living, sleeping, eating,  
14          cooking, and sanitation, that has been constructed onto an owner-occupied single-family home.