

HOUSE No. 777

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act to modify agricultural lands preservation committee representation..

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 MGL Chapter 20 Section 24 (a) is amended by striking the entire section and inserting in
2 lieu thereof the following new section:

3 Section 24. (a) There shall be an agricultural lands preservation committee in the
4 department of agricultural resources, the members of which shall be the commissioner of
5 agricultural resources, who shall be chairman, the secretary of environmental affairs, the director
6 of housing and community development, the director of the office of state planning, the chairman
7 of the board of agricultural resources or their respective designees, and 6 members appointed by
8 the governor, 2 of whom shall be owners and operators of farms within the commonwealth, one
9 of whom shall represent a land trust and one of whom shall be a municipal official. Members
10 appointed by the governor shall receive \$50 for each day or portion thereof spent in discharge of
11 their official duties not to exceed \$600 annually and shall be reimbursed for the necessary
12 expenses incurred. The dean of the college of food and natural resources of the University of
13 Massachusetts and the state conservationist of the United States Department of Agriculture Soil
14 Conservation Service, or their respective designees, shall serve as nonvoting members.