

**SENATE . . . . . No. 770**

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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 affordable housing built near wetlands..

*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: Section 21 of chapter 40B of the Massachusetts General laws is hereby  
2 amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 Applications to build low and moderate income housing units using a comprehensive  
4 permit shall not be exempt from local bylaws and ordinances concerning building in or the  
5 disturbance of environmentally sensitive areas including, but not limited to, bordering vegetative  
6 wetlands, watersheds, scenic rivers, marshes, wildlife sanctuaries, and vernal pools. Compliance  
7 with these local bylaws and ordinances shall not be considered an uneconomic condition. Local  
8 boards shall have the sole discretion to waive these local bylaws and ordinances.