

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 139**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*James M. Cantwell*

*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 relative to planning boards' approval of subdivision plans.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/14/2015</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 139**

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By Mr. Cantwell of Marshfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 139) of James M. Cantwell relative to the approval by planning boards of subdivision plans in cities and towns. Community Development and Small Businesses.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 162 OF 2013-2014.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to planning boards' approval of subdivision plans.

*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 81U of chapter 41 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 In any city or town which has accepted the provisions of this paragraph, in the case of  
4 approval or disapproval of a definitive subdivision plan by action of the planning board, the  
5 planning board shall send notice of such approval to all persons that they were required to give  
6 the initial notice of the public hearing and shall inform all persons of their right to appeal and the  
7 time in which such appeal must be filed. The petitioner who seeks approval by reason of failure  
8 of the planning board to act within the time prescribed shall notify the city or town clerk in  
9 writing, within 14 days from the expiration of the approval period required in Section 81U or  
10 extended time, if applicable, of such approval. That notice shall be sent by mail to all persons

11 that were required to receive the initial notice of the public hearing and it shall specify that  
12 appeals, if any, shall be filed within 20 days after the date the city or town clerk received such  
13 written notice from the petitioner that the board failed to act within the time prescribed.