

SENATE No. 2279

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)

SENATE, July 1, 2019

The committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2222) of Mark C. Montigny (with approval of the mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize the city of New Bedford to enter into a long-term lease for the operation of a performing arts center,- reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 2279).

For the committee,
Rebecca L. Rausch

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An Act authorizing the city of New Bedford to enter into a long-term lease for the operation of a performing arts center.

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 section 3 of chapter 40 of the General Laws, or any other
2 general or special law to the contrary, the city of New Bedford is hereby authorized to lease the
3 property located at 680 and 684 Purchase Street in New Bedford or any portion thereof to a
4 public or private entity for up to 99 years, upon such terms and conditions as the mayor and city
5 council shall determine to be in the city’s interests, for the purpose of operating a performing arts
6 center.

7 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, but subject to
8 paragraphs (a), (b) and (g) of section 16 of chapter 30B of the General Laws, the city of New
9 Bedford is hereby authorized, without commissioning an appraisal or soliciting proposals, to
10 negotiate terms and enter into a lease for the property described in section 1 and as authorized by
11 section 1, directly with the legal Massachusetts entity responsible for the operation of the
12 Zeiterion Theatre Performing Arts Center.

13 SECTION 3. In the event that the property described in section 1 is no longer used by the
14 lessee as a performing arts center, the property shall immediately revert back to the city of New
15 Bedford to be used for public purposes.

16 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.