

**SENATE . . . . . No. 804**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Jason M. Lewis*

*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 to update Chapter 40B to support the creation of affordable housing while strengthening local oversight.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Jason M. Lewis*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Fifth Middlesex*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 804**

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By Mr. Lewis, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 804) of Jason M. Lewis for legislation to update Chapter 40B to support the creation of affordable housing while strengthening local oversight. Housing.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 727 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to update Chapter 40B to support the creation of affordable housing while strengthening local oversight.

*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. There shall be a commission to explore opportunities for reforming and  
2 improving regional planning pursuant to chapter 40B of the General Laws. The commission shall  
3 submit a report to the house and senate clerks and the chairs of the joint committee on housing  
4 offering recommendations for increasing the sustainable supply of affordable housing in our  
5 communities while also increasing the authority of local communities to manage the siting and  
6 design of these projects so as to avoid undue harm to neighborhoods, schools, the environment,  
7 traffic and other local concerns.

8           The commission shall consist of the following 11 members: the secretary of the  
9 department of housing and community development or a designee who shall serve as chair of the

10 commission; 4 members appointed by the governor; 2 members appointed by the senate  
11 president; 1 member appointed by the minority leader of the senate; 2 members appointed by the  
12 speaker of the house; and 1 member appointed by the minority leader of the house of  
13 representatives.

14 The commission shall submit its report no later than June 30, 2020.