

**SENATE . . . . . No. 2946**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Marc R. Pacheco*

*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 amending the town of Bridgewater's town charter relative to the makeup of the town council.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Marc R. Pacheco*

*First Plymouth and Bristol*

*Angelo L. D'Emilia*

*8th Plymouth*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 2946**

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By Mr. Pacheco, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2946) of Marc R. Pacheco and Angelo L. D'Emilia (by vote of the town) for legislation to amend the town of Bridgewater's town charter relative to the makeup of the town council. Municipalities and Regional Government. [Local approval received]

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**

An Act amending the town of Bridgewater's town charter relative to the makeup of the town council.

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

1           ORDERED, that the Town Council assembled votes to amend the Bridgewater Home  
2 Rule Charter, Article II, Section 2-1 and to send said amendment to the State Legislature as a  
3 Special Act as follows:

4           Section 2-1 shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

5           SECTION 2-1. COMPOSITION; ELIGIBILITY; TERM OF OFFICE

6           (a) Composition - There shall be a town council consisting of nine members which shall  
7 exercise the legislative powers of the town. Three of these members, to be known as District  
8 Councilors, shall be nominated and elected by and from the voters of the three Districts into  
9 which the town is divided and six of the members to be known as Councilors-at-Large, shall be  
10 nominated and elected by and from the voters at large.

11 (b) Eligibility - Any voter shall be eligible to hold the office of Councilor-at-Large. A  
12 District Councilor must be a voter and resident of the District in which election is sought. If a  
13 District Councilor or a Councilor-at-Large moves out of the town during the term for which  
14 elected, such office shall immediately be deemed vacant and filled in the manner provided in  
15 section 2-5. If a District Councilor moves from the District from which the councilor is elected,  
16 or is removed by a change in District lines, and more than 14 months remains of the term for  
17 which elected, the office shall be deemed vacant and shall be filled in the manner provided in  
18 section 2-5. If less than 6 months of the term remains, the District Councilor who remains a  
19 resident of the town may continue to serve during the term for which elected.

20 ROLL CALL VOTE - REQUIRES MAJORITY OF FULL COUNCIL

21 (c) Term of Office - After completion of the transitional terms as outlined in Section 10-  
22 7, the term of office of District Councilors and Councilors-at-Large shall be staggered terms of 3  
23 years each, beginning on the next business day following election and continuing until their  
24 successors are qualified.