

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3555**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Kristin E. Kassner*

*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 local option for associate members of planning boards.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Kristin E. Kassner</i>	<i>2nd Essex</i>	<i>3/3/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3555**

By Representative Kassner of Hamilton, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Kristin E. Kassner relative to local option for associate members of planning boards. Municipalities and Regional Government.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**

An Act relative to local option for associate members of planning boards.

*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 9 of chapter 40A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the eleventh paragraph.

3 SECTION 2. Section 81A of chapter 41 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
4 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following  
5 paragraph:-

6 Zoning ordinances or by-laws may provide for associate members of a planning board.  
7 One associate member may be authorized when the planning board consists of five members,  
8 and two associate members may be authorized when the planning board consists of more than  
9 five members. A city or town which establishes the position of associate member shall determine  
10 the procedure for filling such position. If provision for filling the position of associate member  
11 has been made, in the case of absence, inability to act, conflict of interest on the part of any  
12 member of the planning board, or in the event of a vacancy on the board the chairman of the

13 planning board may designate an associate member to sit on the board for the purposes of acting  
14 on any matter under its jurisdiction including but not limited to this chapter, chapter 40A or  
15 under its home rule powers.