

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4205**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Steven Owens and John J. Lawn, Jr.*

*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 authorizing the city of Watertown to lease property at 124 Watertown street, Watertown (former Parker school).

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Steven Owens</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/27/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4205**

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By Representatives Owens of Watertown and Lawn of Watertown, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4205) of Steven Owens (with the approval of the city council) that the city of Watertown be authorized to lease space at the former Parker school in said city. Municipalities and Regional Government. [Local Approval Received.]

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**  
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An Act authorizing the city of Watertown to lease property at 124 Watertown street, Watertown (former Parker school).

*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 any provisions of chapter 30B of the general laws or of any  
2 other general or special law to the contrary, the city of Watertown is hereby authorized to lease,  
3 for terms of no more than thirty (30) years, space at that certain property located at 124  
4 Watertown street in the city of Watertown, the former Parker school, which property is described  
5 in an order of taking, recorded January 18, 2023, with the vote of its City Council, and on such  
6 terms and conditions and for such consideration as the City Council deems appropriate, in  
7 accordance with such process that will ensure that such leases shall be undertaken in accordance  
8 with an open, fair, and competitive disposition process, using sound business practices and  
9 principles of fair dealing, which process may recognize as a criteria for evaluation for such leases  
10 a level of preference for current lessees of such property. Further, any design and construction to  
11 be performed by a lessee or or lessees shall be exempt from the provision of the general laws

12 related to the construction, reconstruction, alteration, remodeling, repair and maintenance of the  
13 improvements at the public property, including sections 44 to 58, inclusive of chapter 7C;  
14 sections 44A to 44F, inclusive of chapter 149; and section 39M of chapter 30, provided,  
15 however, the provisions of section 26 to 27H, inclusive, of chapter 149 shall apply to any  
16 contracts entered into by the lessee or lessees for the construction of such improvements.

17           Section 2. This Act shall not exempt the City from the provisions of section 3 of chapter  
18 40 and sections (a), (b), and (g) of section 16 of chapter 30B of the general laws, or any other  
19 general or special law which requires a vote of the City Council to authorize the lease of real  
20 property.

21           Section 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.