

HOUSE No. 4569

Substituted by the House, on motion of Mr. Walsh of Peabody, for a bill with the same title (House, No. 2269) [Local Approval Received]. September 29, 2025.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to the temporary absence of the town manager in the city known as the town of Bridgewater.

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. Article IV of the charter of the city known as the town of Bridgewater, on
2 file with the state archivist as provided by section 12 of chapter 43B of the General Laws, is
3 hereby amended by striking out Section 4-7 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

4 Section 4-7. TEMPORARY ABSENCE

5 In the event of a temporary absence by the Town Manager of not more than 21
6 consecutive days, the Assistant Town Manager shall perform the duties of that office.

7 If the Assistant Town Manager is for any reason unable to serve, the Town Manager shall
8 appoint a department head of the Town to perform the duties of that office during that period, by
9 a letter filed with the Town Clerk and the Town Council.

10 In the event of failure of the Town Manager to make such a designation or if the person
11 so designated is for any reason unable to serve, or is deemed not qualified by the Town Council,

12 the Town Council may appoint some other qualified person to perform the duties of the Town
13 Manager until the Town Manager returns.

14 No member of the Town Council shall serve as acting Town Manager.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon approval by a majority of the voters of the
16 city known as the town of Bridgewater, but not otherwise.