

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 4970

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 29, 2026.

The committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2254) of Michelle L. Ciccolo for legislation to establish a local option fine for improper disposal of certain redeemable beverage containers; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2261) of Carol A. Doherty and James K. Hawkins relative to the criminalization of homelessness; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2272) of Carmine Lawrence Gentile, David Paul Linsky and James B. Eldridge (by vote of the town) that the town of Wayland be authorized to hold annual and special hybrid town meetings; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2274) of Carmine Lawrence Gentile and others relative to authorizing any town meeting to be held through remote participation or a hybrid of in-person and remote participation; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2281) of Kevin G. Honan relative to municipal planning board regulations governing the reconstruction of certain local roadways; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2282) of Kevin G. Honan relative to subdivision dead end ways; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2283) of Kevin G. Honan relative to municipal permitting; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2286) of Steven S. Howitt relative to property subdivision; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2301) of Kristin E. Kassner relative to zoning voting thresholds; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2309) of Marc T. Lombardo for legislation to prohibit cities or towns from failing to enforce federal immigration laws by designating themselves as sanctuary cities and to withhold unrestricted general government aid to cities and towns for non-compliance; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2312) of Paul McMurtry and Ryan C. Fattman relative to municipal zoning powers in relation to the installation of solar energy systems; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2317) of Brian W. Murray relative to zoning; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2326) of Sean Reid relative to zoning restrictions for land or structures for religious or

educational purposes; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2329) of Daniel J. Ryan for legislation to support the equitable utilization of third party consultants in land use determinations; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2353) of Thomas P. Walsh for legislation to authorize cities and towns to establish ridgeline and hillside protection district review boards; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2354) of Thomas P. Walsh and others relative to the use of certain fairground properties; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4047) of John Barrett, III relative to special permits, reports recommending that the accompanying order (House, No. 4970) ought to be adopted.

For the committee,

JACK PATRICK LEWIS.

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*House of Representatives,*

1           *Ordered,* That the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government be authorized  
2   to sit during a recess of the General Court to make an investigation and study of House  
3   documents numbered 2254, 2261, 2272, 2274, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2286, 2301, 2309, 2312, 2317,  
4   2326, 2329, 2353, 2354 and 4047, relative to municipal powers, permitting and zoning.

5           Said committee shall report to the General Court the results of its investigation and study  
6   and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry such  
7   recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the Clerk of the House of Representatives  
8   on or before December 31, 2026.