

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 5531**

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Substituted by the House, on motion of Mr. Walsh of Peabody, for a bill with the same title (House, No. 4614) [Local Approval Received]. June 24, 2026.

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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 relative to James J. O'Neil Park.

*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. The conservation commission of the city of Lawrence may transfer, and the  
2 city may thereafter convey to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for roadway  
3 purposes, a 77 square foot, more or less, portion of that certain parcel of city-owned park land  
4 designated on the Lawrence assessors' map 128 as lot 39 and described in a deed recorded in the  
5 Essex North registry of deeds in book 16362, page 225. The portion of the parcel to be conveyed  
6 is located at the James J. O'Neill park at the intersection of Lawrence street and Chestnut street,  
7 shown on plan no. 18539, recorded in the Essex North registry of deeds. As a condition of said  
8 transfer, and to ensure no net loss of land subject to article 97 of the amendments to the  
9 constitution of the commonwealth, the city shall acquire a portion of that certain parcel of land  
10 consisting of 363 square feet, more or less, as shown on said plan and designated on Lawrence's  
11 Assessors' map 128 as lot 39, which shall be held by the city of Lawrence under the care,  
12 custody and control of the conservation commission, for recreational purposes, consistent with  
13 the provisions of section 8C of chapter 40 of the General Laws and subject to said article 97.

14           SECTION 2. No document or instrument conveying the 77 square feet authorized in  
15 section 1 shall be valid unless such document or instrument provides that the interest in the land,  
16 consisting of 363 square feet, more or less, and designated on Lawrence’s Assessors' map 128 as  
17 lot 39, located at Lawrence street, shall, upon transfer to the city of Lawrence, be held and  
18 maintained by the city solely for open space, conservation and passive recreation purposes,  
19 consistent with the provisions of section 8C of chapter 40 of the General Laws and article 97 of  
20 the amendments to the constitution of the commonwealth.

21           SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.