

HOUSE No. 838

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Ryan M. Hamilton

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 a special election in the city of Methuen to fill a vacancy in the Office of Mayor.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Ryan M. Hamilton</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 838

By Representative Hamilton of Methuen, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 838) of Ryan M. Hamilton (with the approval of the acting mayor and city council) for legislation to authorize a special election in the city of Methuen to fill a vacancy in the office of Mayor. Election Laws. [Local Approval Received.]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 5513 OF 2023-2024.]

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 a special election in the city of Methuen to fill a vacancy in the Office of Mayor.

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 the provisions of subsection (a) of section 3-8 of article 3
2 of the charter of the city of Methuen, or of any other general or special law or ordinance of the
3 contrary, the vacancy in the office of the Mayor for the City of Methuen shall be filled at a
4 special election called for by the City Council to be held not less than 64 days after the date on
5 which the special election is called, but not later than December 14, 2024.

6 SECTION 2. The number of signatures of voters required to place the name of a
7 candidate on the official ballot to be used at the special election shall be not less than 150.

8 SECTION 3. Except as provided for in this act, the nomination of candidates and the
9 conduct of the special election held pursuant to this act shall be in accordance with all other
10 provisions of the city charter and any other applicable general or special law. No preliminary
11 shall be held for the special election authorized in section 1.

12 SECTION 4. If this act shall not be in effect as of October 7, 2024, then any action taken
13 consistent with this act shall be ratified, validated and confirmed as though this act had been in
14 place prior.

15 SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage.