

**Massachusetts House of Representatives  
Bill Summary**

**Bill #:** H.3977

**Title:** An Act providing for alternate members of the Becket conservation commission

**Sponsor:** Rep. Leigh Davis and Sen. Paul Mark

**Committee:** Municipalities and Regional Government

**Hearing Date:** 5/13/25

**Current Law:** Chapter 40 Section 8C of MGL governs the establishment and powers and duties of conservation commissions. The law states that commissions may be composed of between 3 and 7 regular members, appointed by the selectmen or town manager if the manager has the power to make such appointments.

The Becket Conservation Commission is composed of 7 members.

**Summary:** Section 1 authorizes the Select Board of the Town of Becket to appoint not more than 2 alternate members of the Conservation Commission for staggered terms not to exceed 3 years each.

The bill authorizes the Chair of the Conservation Commission to designate an alternate member to sit on the Commission in the case of absence, inability to act or conflict of interest on the part of a member of the Commission, or in the event of a vacancy on the Commission, until the vacancy is filled in accordance with Chapter 40, Section 8C.

Section 2 states that this act shall take effect upon its passage.

**Notes:** Local approval is required prior to enactment of bill.