

**Massachusetts House of Representatives
Bill Summary**

Bill #: H.4314

Title: An Act to allow the town of Hingham to use municipal property as the location for a center for active living.

Sponsor: Rep. Joan Meschino

Committee: Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government

Hearing Date: 8/14/25 9:00 AM – 8/21/25 5:00 PM

Current Law:

Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts states that lands and easements taken or acquired for conservation shall not be used for other purposes or otherwise disposed of except by laws enacted by a two thirds vote, taken by yeas and nays, of each branch of the general court.

Summary:

Section 1 allows the town of Hingham to change the purpose of the plot of land described as Assessor's Map 77, Lot 1, off Bare Cove Park drive in the town of Hingham to be the location for the town of Hingham Center for Active Living. The parcel contains approximately 5.387 acres of land.

Section 2 allows the town of Hingham to transfer 6.847 acres of land shown as "AREA TO BE COMBINED WITH "CONSERVATION" LOT" on the plan entitled "Approval Not Required Plan of Land, 200 High Street, Hingham, MA 02043", dated April 15, 2025, prepared by CHA Consulting, Inc from the school committee to the conservation committee for the purposes of conservation under Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Section 3 states that this act shall take effect upon passage.

Notes:

Approved by two-thirds majority vote of the Hingham Town Meeting during the meeting dated April 28 and 29 of 2025, with 372 in favor and 168 opposed.