

**Massachusetts House of Representatives  
Bill Summary**

**Bill #:** H.4380

**Title:** An Act amending the charter of the city known as the town of Agawam to strike the reference to the board of appeals

**Sponsor:** Rep. Michael J. Finn

**Committee:** Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government

**Hearing Date:** September 4 to September 11, 2025 written testimony hearing

**Current Law:**

Section 2-8, subsection (c) of the Agawam city charter delineates the structure and duties of the board of appeals.

Section 12 of Chapter 40A of the General Laws details the structure, membership, and duties of a municipality's zoning board of appeals.

Section 58A of chapter 54 of the General Laws specifies how a provision of the MGL shall be submitted to the voters, including date of filing and the form of said question.

**Summary:**

Section 1 eliminates Section 2-8, subsection (c), which deals with the board of appeals, from the Agawam city charter.

Section 2 states that a ballot question shall be brought before Agawam voters in the 2025 regular election for acceptance of this act, complete with a concise and fair summary prepared by the city solicitor. If accepted, the city shall provide by ordinance a zoning board of appeals consistent with Section 12 of Chapter 40A of the General Laws.

Section 3 tasks the city solicitor to submit said summary at least 60 days before the election in accordance with section 58A of chapter 54 of the General Laws.

**Notes:**

Approved by the Agawam city council as TR-2025-34 on May 5, 2025 and signed by the Mayor on May 6.