

Massachusetts House of Representatives Bill Summary

Bill #: H.4381

Title: An Act further regarding the term of the town moderator in the town of Norwood

Sponsor: Rep. John Rogers

Committee: Municipalities and Regional Government

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

Current Law: Chapter 541 of the Acts of 1947 established a representative town meeting form of government in the town of Norwood. Section 11 calls for the moderator to be elected annually.

Section 1 of Chapter 301 of the Acts of 2018 amended the 1947 special act by authorizing the town moderator, the chair of the board of selectmen, the chair of the finance commission and the chair of the school committee to serve as at-large members of the town meeting.

Summary: Section 1 of the bill provides for the moderator to be elected by the voters by ballot for a 3-year term, to serve as the moderator for all town meetings, except as provided by law, and to continue serving until their successor is qualified.

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

Notes: Local approval: May 15, 2025 Special Town Meeting; approved as Article 1 by a vote of 133 in favor, 24 opposed, with 1 abstention.