

Massachusetts House of Representatives Bill Summary

Bill #: H.4385

Title: An Act relative to the town charter of the town of Plainville

Sponsor: Rep. Marcus Vaughn

Committee: Municipalities and Regional Government

Hearing Date: September 23 – September 30, 2025 written testimony hearing

Current Law: Section C-5-2 of the Plainville town charter authorizes the select board to appoint not more than 2 alternate or associate members to each multi-member elected town body, except the school committee and the housing authority or other such board authorized by General Laws. Such associate or alternate members may participate in all matters pending before such bodies.

Summary: The bill would amend the town charter by making two changes:

1. It would provide for alternate or associate members to be appointed to serve for terms of one year each; and
2. Clarifies language about the process for when such alternate or associate members may act by authorizing the chair of multi-member town bodies to designate such alternates or associates to temporarily serve as full members in the event of a regular member's absence, inability to act, conflict of interest or a vacancy.

Notes: Local approval: May 19, 2025 Annual Town Meeting; Article 29 declared passed by a unanimous vote.