

Massachusetts House of Representatives Bill Summary

Bill #: H.4716

Title: An Act amending the charter of the city of Pittsfield

Sponsor: Rep. Tricia Farley-Bouvier

Committee: Municipalities and Regional Government

Hearing Date: November 17 – November 21, 2025 written testimony only

Current Law: Currently the Pittsfield city charter provides for an 11-member city council whose members serve two-year terms, and a 7-member school committee. The six elected school committee members serve two-year terms. The seventh member of the school committee is the mayor, who under a separate charter provision serves a four-year term of office.

Summary: Section 1 of the bill amends section 2-1 of article 2 of the city charter by increasing the term of office for members of the city council from two years to four years.

Section 2 amends section 4-1 of article 4 of the city charter by increasing the term of office for members of the school committee from two years to four years.

These changes will align the terms of office with that of the mayor.

Notes: Language adopted by the Pittsfield City Council on August 12, 2025. The provision relating to school committee members passed by a vote of 10 in favor and 1 opposed, while the provision relating to the city council passed by a vote of 8 in favor and 3 opposed.

Approved by the mayor on August 13, 2025.