

Massachusetts House of Representatives Bill Summary

Bill #:	H.5564
Title:	An Act amending the charter of the town of Bellingham to allow the Director of Finance to serve as the Town Accountant
Sponsor:	Rep. Michael Soter
Committee:	Municipalities and Regional Government
Hearing Date:	July 22, 2026
Current Law:	Chapter 400 of the Acts of 2024 established the current charter for the Town of Bellingham. Article 6-2-1 of the town charter currently requires the chief financial officer to serve as the town accountant in accordance with sections 55 to 61A, inclusive, of chapter 41 of the General Laws.
Summary:	This bill would amend the Bellingham town charter in section 6-2-1 by changing "shall" to "may", thus giving the chief financial officer the option of also serving as the town accountant.
Notes:	This legislation was approved as Article 26 at the May 27, 2026 Annual Spring Town Meeting by a vote of 121 Yes and 21 No.