

Massachusetts House of Representatives Bill Summary

Bill #:	H.5571
Title:	An Act amending the town meeting act for the town of Danvers
Sponsor:	Rep. Sally Kerans and Sen. Joan Lovely
Committee:	Municipalities and Regional Government
Hearing Date:	July 22, 2026
Current Law:	Chapter 294 of the Acts of 1930 established the Representative Town Meeting form of government in the town of Danvers. Chapter 50 of the Acts of 1973 amended the 1930 special act by reducing the number of town meeting members. The 1930 act was also amended in 1948, 1951, 1956, and 1963.
Summary:	This bill would make a number of technical changes, updates and corrections to the current special act which established the form of government in the town of Danvers. The legislation also amends the act as it relates to the finance committee, clarifies certain timelines and deadlines, and clarifies which officials are to be elected at the town election. It also amends provisions relating to the election of town meeting members, and repeals outdated or inconsistent by-laws. The town meeting act would need to be reviewed at least once every 20 years, or sooner if town meeting voted to do so. The proposed special act would be submitted to the select board for approval, who would then prepare a warrant article asking if the town meeting will vote to accept the revised town meeting act. This act would take effect upon its passage.
Notes:	Approved by the February 9, 2026 Special Town Meeting.