

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**



CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
24 BEACON STREET · BOSTON, MA 02133

KARYN POLITO  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

*April 25, 2017*

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives,

Pursuant to the provisions of Article II, Section 8, Paragraph 1, Clause (2) of the Amendments to the Constitution, as appearing in Article LXXXIX of said Amendments, I am filing for your consideration the attached legislation entitled, "An Act Relative to the 2017 Annual Town Election in the Town of Rockport."

The Rockport Board of Selectmen has requested that I file this special legislation on behalf of the Town of Rockport.

The Town discovered recently that certain statutory requirements governing the inclusion of two questions on the town election's ballot will not be met in connection with its hosting of the annual town election on May 2, 2017. This legislation would validate the election's votes and all actions taken and relied upon pursuant to those votes.

I urge your early and favorable consideration of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles D. Baker,  
*Governor*

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to the 2017 annual town election in the town of Rockport.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Notwithstanding section 42C of chapter 54 or section 18A of chapter 53 of  
2 the General Laws, or any other general or special law to the contrary, the votes taken by the town  
3 of Rockport at its May 2, 2017 annual town election relating to a debt exclusion question under  
4 subsection (k) of section 21C of chapter 59 of the general laws and a non-binding public opinion  
5 advisory question under section 18A of chapter 53, and all actions taken pursuant thereto and in  
6 reliance thereon, are hereby ratified, validated and confirmed to the same extent as if the town  
7 clerk had been notified of the questions no less than 35 days prior to the date of the election.

8           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.