

SENATE No. 1153

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael J. Rodrigues

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act improving local decision making.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Michael J. Rodrigues

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Bristol and Plymouth

SENATE No. 1153

By Mr. Rodrigues, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1153) of Michael J. Rodrigues for legislation to provide training for certain local boards and commissions. Municipalities and Regional Government.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1211 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act improving local decision making.

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. Chapter 17 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new section:-

3 7B. The department shall establish, conduct and maintain an annual program of education
4 and training for members of local boards of health; provided, however, that the department shall
5 consult with the Massachusetts Association of Boards of Health in the development of said
6 program; provided, further, that the department may contract with the Massachusetts Association
7 of Boards of Health to provide such education and training. The department may charge a
8 reasonable fee to board members to participate in the program. To the extent practicable, the
9 education and training programs shall be offered in various locations throughout the
10 commonwealth.

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 21A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official
12 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section fifteen the following new section:-

13 15A. The department of environmental protection shall establish, conduct and maintain
14 an annual program of education and training for members of local conservation commissions;
15 provided, however, that the department shall consult with the Massachusetts Association of
16 Conservation Commissions in the development of said program; provided, further, that the
17 department may contract with the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions to
18 provide such education and training. The department may charge a reasonable fee to board
19 members to participate in the program. To the extent practicable, the education and training
20 programs shall be offered in various locations throughout the commonwealth..

21 SECTION 3. Section 3 of chapter 23B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 1
22 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after clause (v) the following subsection:-

23 (w) establish, conduct and maintain an annual program of education and training for
24 members of local planning boards and zoning boards of appeals; provided, however that the
25 department shall consult with the Massachusetts Federation of Planning and Appeals Boards,
26 Inc. regarding development of the program; provided further, the department may contract with
27 the Massachusetts Citizen Planner Training Collaborative at the University of Massachusetts to
28 provide such education and training. The department may charge a reasonable fee to board
29 members to participate in the program. To the extent practicable, the education and training
30 programs shall be offered in various locations throughout the commonwealth.

31 SECTION 4. Section 8C of chapter 40 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
32 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new paragraph:-

33 The members of the commission shall attend such training programs conducted or
34 sponsored by the department of environmental protection under the provisions of section 15A of
35 chapter 21A.

36 SECTION 5. Section 12 of chapter 40A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
37 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new paragraph:-

38 The members of the board shall attend such training programs conducted or sponsored by
39 the department of housing and community development under the provisions of section 3 of
40 chapter 23B.

41 SECTION 6. Section 81A of chapter 41 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
42 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new paragraph:-

43 The members of the board shall attend such training programs conducted or sponsored by
44 the department of housing and community development under the provisions of section 3 of
45 chapter 23B.

46 SECTION 7. Section 26 of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
47 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the fifth sentence the following new
48 sentence:- The members of the board shall attend such training programs conducted or sponsored
49 by the department of public health under the provisions of section 7B of chapter 17.