

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1200**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Michael F. Rush***

*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 to support the equitable utilization of third party consultants in land use determinations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Michael F. Rush*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Norfolk and Suffolk*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1200**

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By Mr. Rush, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1200) of Michael F. Rush for legislation to support the equitable utilization of third party consultants in land use determinations. Municipalities and Regional Government.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1154 OF 2017-2018.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act to support the equitable utilization of third party consultants in land use determinations.

*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. Section 53G of chapter 44, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition of the  
2 General Laws, is hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence the following:-

3           Such rules shall require that the city or town establish and update as necessary a list of  
4 approved outside consultants having the minimum qualifications in one or more fields in which  
5 the local permitting boards or commission reasonably expect to require outside consultants in  
6 reviewing applications. The list shall be certified by the city clerk or town clerk and shall contain  
7 not less than three outside consultants in each field. The applicant shall have the right to select  
8 the outside consultant(s) from the certified list and to request and receive a proposal from each  
9 consultant prior to making such selection. An applicant or petitioner shall not be charged with  
10 the travel costs of an outside consultant. Where a proposed project requires the review and

- 11 approval of more than one local board, commission, or official, the respective local boards,
- 12 commissions, and officials shall coordinate in their use of outside consultants in order to avoid
- 13 unnecessary duplication.