

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael A. Costello (BY REQUEST)

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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to representational district government .

PETITION OF:

NAME:

James N. Thivierge

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

106 Friend Street
Amesbury, MA 01913

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1927 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO REPRESENTATIONAL DISTRICT GOVERNMENT .

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

1 To create and/or amend the appropriate statutes of the Massachusetts General Laws in order to
2 conserve and maximize valuable local resources in bad and good times, and to allow the creation of the
3 following new forms of municipal and regional governments with a study assigned to appropriate
4 committee:— Apart from the current forms already offered, and those that can be modified by “home
5 rule” amendment to the Constitution of Massachusetts thru article 89, these new forms of municipal
6 corporate governance be forged around the current representational and senatorial districts already in
7 place that a formal county governmental structure and structure be considered to offer a more
8 expanded regional form as well be studied to enhance non-redundancy of non-essential and essential
9 services wherever practicable for the benefit of the body politic and the conservation and efficient use
10 of services during these times of rising interest rates, potential population migration, erosion of real
11 property values, the rising cost of health care and retirements, oil related expense, and other increasing
12 expense and the maximization of local and state revenues; but that the current forms of government
13 within these representational administrative alternative formats be preserved. The Form of
14 Representational District Government a Study for example It shall be comprised of representative of
15 the executive branch to form an executive commission the weight of which shall be proportioned by
16 population in relation to the whole of the district; the legislative branch shall be comprised of
17 representation of the local legislative, meeting and/or council, and be chosen by the membership of

18 each respective house of the people; executive branch to form a legislative branch unitary in initial
19 composition the weight of which shall be proportioned by population in relation to the whole of the
20 district and the total real value of each community within the district's area; and that a charter be
21 drawn by a committee of not more than two one persons of each community who shall serve with
22 chosen members of the executive and legislative branch to create a basic working document for the
23 districts form and operation apart from the constraints of the signatories to such a charter commission
24 and subject to calendrial constraints to deliberate and form a representational government of form and
25 funding to be determined by the committee and ratified by a vote of the district, representational at
26 first; The same process shall apply for the senatorial district as well as the county district and regional
27 districts; all funds needed shall be apportioned proportionately to the member of communities with
28 assistance monetary at the sum suggested by the appropriate legislative committee and appropriated in
29 the annual budget. The efficacy of such forms viably taking form and operations in light of the times and
30 in anticipation of the future exigencies shall take the format of similar studies conducted on taxation
31 where the history an performance of the current forms are reviewed in terms of redundancy and to
32 identify areas where the taxpayer can be best served in the future; the initiation of which shall be at the
33 sole pleasure of the legislative representatives of the people in the General Court and in the event of
34 favorable passage as an Act incorporated into General Law(s), be put before the districts voters for
35 ratification of the forms of alternative governance with the appropriate and necessary explanation of
36 its/their merits towards the public good and further to the public purpose to anticipate and prepare for
37 more severe times scarce resources or for simple to pare the redundancy at reasonable costs, And
38 finally, that the study be conducted under the guise of our state's preamble and with "with the end of
39 the institution" in mind and new "social , and administration compacts be created to cope with the
40 changes in our region and demands of a global marketplace to stay competitive, safe and happy.