

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Ms. Chandler

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 requiring a state zoning guide for social service agencies and municipalities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Ms. Chandler

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Worcester

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. S01156 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT REQUIRING A STATE ZONING GUIDE FOR SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES AND MUNICIPALITIES.

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. The general court finds that:

2 the commonwealth has the responsibility to help municipalities implement zoning law;

3 (b) municipalities lack an uniformed guide for implementing zoning law;

4 (c) social service agencies and municipalities often are not communicating and coordinating
5 well;

6 (d) therefore the general court wishes to require preparation of a comprehensive guide to
7 municipal zoning, for use by municipalities and social service agencies for purposes of siting.

8 SECTION 2. The secretary of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, in

9 consultation with other executive agencies including but not limited to the department of the

10 attorney general, the executive office of public safety, the department of housing and community

11 development and the office of commonwealth development, shall develop a comprehensive
12 guide for municipal zoning under section 3 of chapter 40A of the General Laws and other state
13 law and federal law, for use by municipalities and social service agencies.

14 SECTION 3. The secretary shall consider issues related to federal and state law, constitutional
15 issues, state and federal case law, and practices of other states and commonwealths in developing
16 a comprehensive guide for siting of social service agencies, and municipalities including
17 information regarding all applicable federal and state laws and regulations and best practices
18 pertaining to the siting of facilities within which services funded by the commonwealth are
19 delivered.

20 SECTION 4. The secretary shall issue an interim report to the house and senate committees on
21 ways and means, the joint committee on children and families, the joint committee on mental
22 health and substance abuse, and the joint committee on municipalities and regional government
23 within 60 days of enactment.

24 SECTION 5. The secretary shall develop the guide required by this act within 120 days after the
25 effective date of this act.

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