

HOUSE No. 1847

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i> | <i>20th Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Bradford R. Hill</i> | <i>4th Essex</i> |
| <i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i> | <i>14th Bristol</i> |
| <i>Susan Williams Gifford</i> | <i>2nd Plymouth</i> |
| <i>Todd M. Smola</i> | <i>1st Hampden</i> |
| <i>Paul K. Frost</i> | <i>7th Worcester</i> |
| <i>F. Jay Barrows</i> | <i>1st Bristol</i> |
| <i>Sheila C. Harrington</i> | <i>1st Middlesex</i> |
| <i>Shawn Dooley</i> | <i>9th Norfolk</i> |
| <i>David K. Muradian, Jr.</i> | <i>9th Worcester</i> |
| <i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i> | <i>1st Worcester</i> |

HOUSE No. 1847

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1847) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr. and others relative to cities or towns establishing qualified consultants. Municipalities and Regional Government.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

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 of the General Laws, as so appearing in the 2012
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence the following paragraph:-

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
7 contain not less than three outside consultants in each field. The applicant shall have the right to
8 select the outside consultant(s) from the certified list and to request and receive a proposal from
9 each consultant prior to making such selection. An applicant or petitioner shall not be charged
10 with 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.