

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Kristin E. Kassner***

*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 regarding land use board training.

PETITION OF:

| NAME:                     | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED:      |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <i>Kristin E. Kassner</i> | <i>2nd Essex</i>  | <i>1/13/2025</i> |

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3553 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**

An Act regarding land use board training.

*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 3 of chapter 23B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after clause (v) the following subsection:- (w)  
3 establish, conduct and maintain an annual program of education, self-evaluation, and training for  
4 members of local planning boards, special permit granting authorities, and zoning boards of  
5 appeals, at no cost to municipalities; provided, however, that the department shall consult with  
6 the Massachusetts Association of Planning Directors, Massachusetts Association of Regional  
7 Planning Agencies, and American Planning Association - Massachusetts Chapter, and  
8 Massachusetts Citizen Planner Training Collaborative regarding development of the program to  
9 provide such education, self-evaluation, and training. Training shall cover special permits,  
10 subdivision control, variances, fair housing and any other laws that govern the role and  
11 responsibility of said board. To the extent practicable, the education, self-evaluation, and training

12 programs shall be offered online and in various locations throughout the commonwealth, at  
13 various times of the year.

14 Every member of local planning boards, special permit granting authorities, and zoning  
15 boards of appeals shall, within 60 days after becoming a board member, and every 2 years  
16 thereafter, complete the education, self-evaluation, and training program, either online or in-  
17 person. Upon completion of the program, the member shall provide notice of such completion to  
18 the town or city clerk, such notice to be retained for 6 years.