

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 3971

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133  
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DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

April 2, 2007.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article II, Section 8, Paragraph 1, Clause (2) of the Amendments to the Constitution, as amended by Article LXXXIX, I am filing for your consideration the attached legislation entitled, "An Act Validating The Actions Taken At An Annual Election Held In The Town Of Dudley."

Senator Moore, Representative Kujawski and the Dudley Board of Selectmen have asked that this legislation be filed to permit the town to fill two vacancies in the office of the Planning Board at the town's annual election on May 7, 2007. Absent this legislation, the town would have to put its already scarce resources into either a special election or an emergency town meeting.

To save the town of Dudley from the expense of conducting another election or calling an emergency town meeting and to ensure the town is governed by a full Planning Board quickly, I urge your early and favorable consideration of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deval Patrick".

DEVAL L. PATRICK,  
*Governor.*

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

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AN ACT VALIDATING THE ACTIONS TAKEN AT AN ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION  
HELD IN THE TOWN OF DUDLEY.

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

1 Notwithstanding Section 10 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws,  
2 or any other general or special law to the contrary, the actions of  
3 the town of Dudley with regard to the placement of the office of  
4 planning board on the ballot to fill 2 vacancies at the May 7, 2007,  
5 annual town election, and those actions taken by the town pur-  
6 suant thereto, are hereby ratified, validated, and confirmed,  
7 notwithstanding the failure to notify the town clerk to place the  
8 office on the ballot within the time frame provided by law.