

SENATE NO. 2159

AN ACT AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE CITY OF WESTFIELD REGARDING THE WESTFIELD MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD

*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. Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 294 of the Acts of 1920 or of any other
2 general or special law or ordinance of the City of Westfield to the contrary, the Municipal Light Board
3 of the City of Westfield shall consist of one member from each ward of the City to be elected for a
4 term of two years at the regular city election to be held in the year Two Thousand and Seven and at
5 each biennial city election thereafter and one member to be appointed by the Mayor for a term of two
6 years, subject to City Council confirmation, the first such appointed member to take office concurrent
7 with the Board elected as a result of the Two Thousand and Seven city election or as soon as thereafter
8 as is possible, said appointed member to hold office until the second Wednesday of January, Two
9 Thousand and Ten or until his successor be duly appointed and qualified. Any vacancy in said Board
10 among members elected by ward shall be filled until the swearing to office of the members of the
11 Board elected as a result of the city election next following the vacancy in the same manner as
12 vacancies on the School Committee are filled in accordance with City Charter, through convention of
13 the Municipal Light Board and the City Council.

14 Section 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 294 of the Acts of 1920 or of any general or
15 special law or ordinance of the City of Westfield to the contrary, to the extent that remuneration is
16 provided for service on the Board, all members, whether elected or appointed, shall receive, from the
17 available funds of the Westfield Gas and Electric Light Department, the same monetary compensation
18 and shall be allowed access to the same benefits on the same terms.

19 Section 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 294 of the Acts of 1920 or of any general or
20 special law or ordinance of the City of Westfield to the contrary, the decisions and actions of the
21 Municipal Light Board undertaken by said Board since the enlargement of the Board to six members
22 as a result of the city election held in the year Two Thousand and Three shall not be subject to
23 challenge due to the numbers of members or the method of selection of the members of said Board and
24 all such decisions or acts undertaken by said six member Board as otherwise lawful and within the
25 authority of a municipal light board as provided in the general laws are hereby ratified and approved
26 and said Board, as presently elected and constituted is hereby empowered to exercise all power and
27 authority of a Municipal Light Board as allowed by City Charter and the general laws.