



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Committee Bill No. 5472

LCO No. 3898

03898HB05472PD_

Referred to Committee on Planning and Development

Introduced by:
(PD)

AN ACT AUTHORIZING LOCAL AND REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL COUNCILS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2011*) (a) Any municipality
2 may, by vote of its legislative body or, in a municipality where the
3 legislative body is a town meeting, by vote of the board of selectmen,
4 establish a local agricultural council to: (1) Provide information to local
5 farmers and to municipal boards and commissions about the benefits
6 of a balance between agriculture and other land uses; (2) educate
7 municipal officials about agricultural laws and safety issues; (3)
8 identify grant sources for farmers and municipalities; (4) enable a
9 common understanding of agriculture among all municipal
10 departments; (5) provide information and guidance about zoning
11 issues relating to agriculture; (6) support local, regional and state
12 vocational agricultural programs concerning agricultural matters; (7)
13 provide conflict resolution and advisory services; (8) identify
14 innovative opportunities for agriculture; and (9) create a climate that
15 supports the economic viability of agriculture in the municipality.

16 (b) Any two or more municipalities may form a regional

17 agricultural council for the purposes set forth in subsection (a) of this
18 section by vote of the legislative body or, in a municipality where the
19 legislative body is a town meeting, by vote of the board of selectmen,
20 of each municipality.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2011	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To authorize municipalities to form local and regional agricultural councils.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. REYNOLDS, 42nd Dist.; REP. FLEXER, 44th Dist.

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