



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

Raised Bill No. 444

LCO No. 2309



Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by:
(PD)

AN ACT AUTHORIZING CERTAIN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES TO SERVE ON MUNICIPAL BOARDS OF FINANCE.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (e) of section 7-421 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3 *1, 2026*):

4 (e) Any municipal employee shall have the right to serve on any
5 governmental body of the town in which such employee resides except
6 any body which has responsibility for direct supervision of such
7 employee. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, (1) no
8 such employee shall serve on any of the following unless such employee
9 is permitted to serve pursuant to the provisions of a municipal charter
10 or home rule ordinance or serves because of membership on the
11 legislative body of the municipality [:(A) Any board of finance created
12 pursuant to chapter 106 or any special act or municipal charter; (B)] (A)
13 any body exercising zoning powers pursuant to chapter 124 or any
14 special act or municipal charter; [(C)] (B) any body exercising land use
15 powers pursuant to chapter 125a or any special act or municipal charter;

16 [(D)] (C) any body exercising planning powers pursuant to chapter 126
17 or any special act or municipal charter; or [(E)] (D) any body regulating
18 inland wetlands and watercourses pursuant to chapter 440 or any
19 special act or municipal charter; (2) no such employee shall serve on a
20 board of finance created pursuant to chapter 106 or any special act or
21 municipal charter unless such employee (A) is permitted to serve
22 pursuant to the provisions of a municipal charter or home rule
23 ordinance, (B) serves because of membership on the legislative body of
24 the municipality, or (C) earns a salary or wages for such municipal
25 employment in an amount less than ten thousand dollars annually; and
26 [(2)] (3) any municipality may, by ordinance adopted by its legislative
27 body, authorize such employees to serve on (A) any body exercising
28 zoning powers pursuant to chapter 124 or any special act or municipal
29 charter; (B) any body exercising land use powers pursuant to chapter
30 125a or any special act or municipal charter; (C) any body exercising
31 planning powers pursuant to chapter 126 or any special act or municipal
32 charter; or (D) any body regulating inland wetlands and watercourses
33 pursuant to chapter 440 or any special act or municipal charter.

34 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 8-19 of the general statutes is repealed
35 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

36 (a) Any municipality may create by ordinance a planning
37 commission, which shall consist of five members, who shall be electors
38 of such municipality and whose terms of office and method of election
39 or appointment shall be fixed in the ordinance. The ordinance may
40 provide that members may be municipal employees if the municipality
41 has adopted an ordinance authorizing such membership pursuant to the
42 provisions of subparagraph (C) of subdivision [(2)] (3) of subsection (e)
43 of section 7-421, as amended by this act. The chief executive officer of
44 the municipality and the engineer thereof or commissioner of public
45 works, if any, shall also be members of the commission, without voting
46 privileges. The terms of office shall be so arranged that the terms of not
47 more than three members shall expire in any one year. Unless otherwise
48 provided by charter, vacancies shall be filled by the commission for the

49 unexpired portion of the term. Upon the adoption of this section by
50 ordinance as herein provided, and the appointment or election of a
51 commission thereunder, any planning commission in the municipality
52 established under any previous act of the General Assembly shall cease
53 to exist, and its books and records shall be turned over to the
54 commission established under this section, provided all regulations
55 promulgated by such planning commission prior to that time shall
56 continue in full force and effect until modified, repealed or superseded
57 in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. The area of
58 jurisdiction of a planning commission created by a town includes any
59 city or borough therein without a legally constituted planning
60 commission for all planning purposes except those specified in sections
61 8-24 and 8-29. Powers granted under said sections may be delegated by
62 the legislative body of such city or borough to the planning commission
63 of the town in which such city or borough is situated. Any city or
64 borough in which a planning commission has been previously
65 established may, by ordinance, designate the commission established
66 under this section in the town in which such city or borough is situated
67 to be the planning commission of such city or borough, and such
68 commission shall supersede the planning commission previously
69 established in such city or borough. The commission shall elect a
70 chairman and a secretary from its members, shall adopt rules for the
71 transaction of business and shall keep a public record of its activities.
72 The planning commission of each municipality shall file an annual
73 report with the legislative body thereof.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 7-421(e) |
| Sec. 2 | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 8-19(a) |

Statement of Purpose:

To authorize municipal employees to serve on municipal boards of finance if such employees receive less than ten thousand dollars in salary or wages annually.

[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.]