



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 444

February Session, 2026



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2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*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) earned a salary or wages for such municipal
25 employment totaling less than ten thousand dollars in the previous
26 twelve-month period; and [(2)] (3) any municipality may, by ordinance
27 adopted by its legislative body, authorize such employees to serve on
28 (A) any body exercising zoning powers pursuant to chapter 124 or any
29 special act or municipal charter; (B) any body exercising land use
30 powers pursuant to chapter 125a or any special act or municipal charter;
31 (C) any body exercising planning powers pursuant to chapter 126 or any
32 special act or municipal charter; or (D) any body regulating inland
33 wetlands and watercourses pursuant to chapter 440 or any special act or
34 municipal charter.

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 Subsection (a) of section 8-19 of the general statutes is repealed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

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

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

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

PD *Joint Favorable Subst.*