



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE SENATOR
MICHAEL O. MOORE
SECOND WORCESTER DISTRICT
State House, Room 518, Boston, MA 02133 (617) 722-1485

Senator Moore, Representative Frost Announce Bill Passed To Amend the Charter for the Town of Auburn

(Boston) – State Senator Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury) and Representative Paul Frost (R-Auburn) are pleased to announce that the legislature gave final approval to a home rule petition filed on behalf of the Town of Auburn. The home rule was originally filed last year, but due to a minor technical correction was required to be re-submitted in the current session.

The charter is being amended to enable the town manager to become the chief executive and administrative officer of the Town of Auburn. The town manager would be appointed by the board of selectman and be responsible for the overall policy direction for the town government. Additionally, the town manager with the approval of the board of selectmen would be responsible for the appointment of all town department heads.

The town manager would also appoint members of various regulatory boards such as the planning board, zoning board of appeals and all other boards with the approval of the board of selectman. The previously elected positions of town treasurer, highway surveyor, members of the planning board, parks commission, and sewer commission would be appointed by the town manager subject to the approval by the Board of Selectman.

“The changes mandated by the home rule petition have been long sought by Auburn to facilitate a more streamlined municipal government,” said Senator Moore. “I am pleased at the speed with which this petition moved through the legislative process.”

Representative Frost Commented, “The path is now open to place this on the ballot at Auburn’s annual town election on Thursday, May 21. The voters of town will now have the final say on whether or not the community should change its style of local government. The town voters will now choose whether to keep the same system of government with elected positions or allow for a strong town manager form of government by making those positions appointed and answerable to the town manager. My hope is the town has an outstanding turnout to decide this question and the other important races on this year’s town wide ballot.”

The legislation was signed by Governor Patrick on Tuesday April 14, 2009. Senator Moore and Representative Frost are both pleased the Governor assisted in the speedy passage of this legislation.