

**SENATE . . . . . No. 01046**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Richard T. Moore***

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to promote municipal collaboration and regionalization throughout the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Richard T. Moore</i>	<i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Geraldo Alicea</i>	<i>6th Worcester</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	<i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i>
<i>James E. Timilty</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>

# SENATE . . . . . No. 01046

By Mr. Moore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1046) of Richard T. Moore, Geraldo Alicea, Carolyn C. Dykema, Jason M. Lewis and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote municipal efficiency and innovation through regional collaboration. Municipalities and Regional Government.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE  
□ SENATE  
□ , NO. 779 OF 2009-2010.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act to promote municipal collaboration and regionalization throughout the Commonwealth.  
*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. The following terms shall have the following meanings:  
2 “Regional Planning Agencies”, all planning commissions in the commonwealth, specifically:  
3 “Berkshire Regional Planning Commission”, established under Section 3 of chapter 40B of the  
4 General Laws; “Cape Cod Commission”, established under chapter 716 of the Acts of 1989;  
5 “Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission”, established under Section 3 of said  
6 chapter 40B; “Franklin Regional Council of Governments”, established under Section 567 of  
7 chapter 151 of the Acts of 1996, and as amended by chapter 344 of the Acts of 1998; “Martha’s  
8 Vineyard Commission”, established under chapter 831 of the Acts of 1977, and as amended by

9 chapter 317 of the Acts of 1979; “Merrimack Valley Planning Commission”, established under  
10 Section 3 of said chapter 40B; “Metropolitan Area Planning Council”, established under Section  
11 26 of said chapter 40B; “Montachusett Regional Planning Commission”, established under  
12 Section 3 of said chapter 40B; “Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission”,  
13 established under chapter 561 of the Acts of 1973, and as amended by chapter 98 of the Acts of  
14 1981 and chapter 458 of the Acts of 1991; “Northern Middlesex Council of Governments”,  
15 established under Section 3 of said chapter 40B, and as amended by chapter 357 of the Acts of  
16 1972, chapter 14 of the Acts of 1974 and chapter 420 of the Acts of 1989; “Old Colony Planning  
17 Council”, established under chapter 332 of the Acts of 1967, and as amended by chapter 663 of  
18 the Acts of 1973; “Pioneer Valley Planning Commission”, established under Section 3 of said  
19 chapter 40B, and “Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District”,  
20 established under Section 9 of said chapter 40B.

21 SECTION 2. The Governor shall direct all executive branch agencies, commissions  
22 and departments to evaluate all grant, loan, and technical assistance programs administered by  
23 such for opportunities to promote, facilitate and implement inter-municipal cooperation,  
24 collaboration, and regional service delivery at the local level.

25 Each department, agency, and commission within the executive branch shall provide evaluation  
26 results to the Governor within ninety (90) days, with the goal to identify opportunities to  
27 leverage state resources to promote regional, efficient solutions to common problems.

28 Independent agencies and commissions are encouraged to undertake similar evaluations of any  
29 grant, loan, or technical assistance program administered by them.

30 SECTION 3. The Governor shall direct the chairman of the Municipal Affairs  
31 Coordinating Cabinet to evaluate departmental programs for opportunities to increase  
32 collaboration between communities, and make recommendations to the Governor on the most  
33 promising opportunities that would achieve the aforementioned aims of efficient and enhanced  
34 local government service delivery.

35 SECTION 4. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any executive  
36 agency which administers a program through which funding may be provided to a municipality,  
37 shall encourage municipal efficiencies by prioritizing those applications for funds which come  
38 from cities or towns that have developed a method by which to jointly and more efficiently  
39 utilize such funding.

40 SECTION 5. Section 22A of chapter 7 of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
41 striking the words “the state purchasing agent subject to such rules, regulations and procedures  
42 as may be established from time to time by the purchasing agent” and inserting in place thereof  
43 the following words:-

44 the state purchasing agent or a regional planning agency established pursuant to chapter 40B of  
45 the General Laws or special act, subject to such rules, regulations and procedures as may be  
46 established from time to time by said purchasing agent or regional planning agency.

47 SECTION 6. The Governor shall direct the executive office of administration and  
48 finance to amend 801 C.M.R. 21.00 to state that contracts between regional planning agencies  
49 and any Executive Office, Department, Agency, Office, Division, Board, Commission or  
50 Institution within the Executive Branch to provide or to receive services, facilities, staff

51 assistance or money payments shall be the equivalent of interdepartmental service agreements  
52 and exempt from the provisions of 801 C.M.R. 21.00.

53 SECTION 7. The General Laws are hereby amended by inserting after the second  
54 paragraph of Section 5 of chapter 40B the following paragraphs:-

55 Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, planning commissions  
56 established hereunder may administer and provide regional services to member cities and towns  
57 and may delegate such authority to subregional groups of such cities and towns. Planning  
58 commissions may enter into cooperative agreements with other planning commissions or  
59 regional councils of government to provide such regional services.

60 Regional services provided to member municipalities shall be determined by each planning  
61 commission's executive committee, and may include any service which may be provided by the  
62 municipality or any other public entity in the commonwealth. In the event that an executive  
63 committee has not been established, such services shall be determined by the district planning  
64 commission.

65 Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, any city or town which is a  
66 member of the planning commission may enter into a cooperative agreement with said  
67 commission to perform jointly or for the other or in cooperation with other member cities and  
68 towns, any service, activity or undertaking which such city or town is authorized by law to  
69 perform.

70 All cooperative agreements entered into pursuant to this section by member cities and towns are  
71 voluntary, and notwithstanding any other law, require authorization by the relevant Board of  
72 Selectmen or City Council, with the approval of the mayor.

73 Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, planning commissions are  
74 authorized to enter into contracts and agreements with any department, agency or subdivision of  
75 the federal or state government and any individual, corporation, association or public authority to  
76 provide or receive services, facilities, staff assistance or money payments in connection with the  
77 work of planning commissions, and planning commissions may contribute or receive services,  
78 facilities, staff assistance or money payments as consideration such contracts and agreements.

79 SECTION 8. Section 14 of said chapter 40B, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
80 inserting after subsection (o) the following subsections:-

81 (p) notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, to administer  
82 and provide regional services to member cities and towns and may delegate such authority to  
83 subregional groups of such cities and towns. The commission may enter into cooperative  
84 agreements with other planning commissions or regional councils of government to provide such  
85 regional services. Regional services provided to member municipalities shall be determined by  
86 the executive committee and may include any service which may be provided by the  
87 municipality or any other public entity in the commonwealth.

88 (q) notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, any city or town  
89 which is a member of the district may enter into a cooperative agreement with the commission to  
90 perform jointly or for the other or in cooperation with other member cities and towns, any  
91 service, activity or undertaking which such city or town is authorized by law to perform.

92 (r) all cooperative agreements entered into pursuant to subsection (p) or (q) of this  
93 section by member cities and towns are voluntary, and notwithstanding any other law, require

94 authorization by the relevant Board of Selectmen or City Council, with the approval of the  
95 mayor.

96 SECTION 9. Said chapter 40B is hereby further amended by inserting after the final  
97 paragraph of Section 29 the following sections:-

98 Section 29A. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, the  
99 council is authorized to administer and provide regional services to member cities and towns and  
100 may delegate such authority to subregional groups of such cities and towns. The council may  
101 enter into cooperative agreements with other planning commissions or regional councils of  
102 government to provide such regional services.

103 Regional services provided to member municipalities shall be determined by the  
104 executive committee and may include any service which may be provided by the municipality or  
105 any other public entity in the commonwealth.

106 Section 29B. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, any  
107 city or town which is a member of the council may enter into a cooperative agreement with said  
108 council to perform jointly or for the other or in cooperation with other member cities and towns,  
109 any service, activity or undertaking which such city or town is authorized by law to perform.

110 Section 29C. All cooperative agreements entered into by member cities and towns  
111 pursuant to Section 29A or Section 29B are voluntary, and notwithstanding any other law,  
112 require authorization by the relevant Board of Selectmen or City Council, with the approval of  
113 the mayor.

114 SECTION 10. Section 4 of chapter 716 of the Acts of 1989 is hereby amended by  
115 inserting after subsection (a)(27) the following subsections:-

116 (28) notwithstanding the provisions of any other section of this chapter, to administer  
117 and provide regional services to member cities and towns and may delegate such authority to  
118 subregional groups of such cities and towns. The commission may enter into cooperative  
119 agreements with other planning commissions or regional councils of government to provide such  
120 regional services. Regional services provided to member municipalities shall be determined by  
121 the commission and may include any service which may be provided by the municipality or any  
122 other public entity in the commonwealth.

123 (29) notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, any city or  
124 town which is a member of the commission may enter into a cooperative agreement with said  
125 commission to perform jointly or for the other or in cooperation with other member cities and  
126 towns, any service, activity or undertaking which such city or town is authorized by law to  
127 perform.

128 (30) all cooperative agreements entered into by member cities and towns pursuant to  
129 subsections (28) and (29) of this section are voluntary, and notwithstanding any other law,  
130 require authorization by the relevant Board of Selectmen or City Council, with the approval of  
131 the mayor.

132 (31) notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, the  
133 commission is authorized to  
134 enter into contracts and agreements with any department, agency or subdivision of the federal or  
135 state government and any individual, corporation, association or public authority to provide or

136 receive services, facilities, staff assistance or money payments in connection with the work of the  
137 commission, and the commission may contribute or receive services, facilities, staff assistance or  
138 money payments as consideration such contracts and agreements.

139 SECTION 11. Section 3 of chapter 831 of the Acts of 1977 is hereby amended by  
140 inserting after the fourth paragraph the following section:-

141 Section 3A. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section of this chapter, the  
142 commission may administer and provide regional services to member cities and towns and may  
143 delegate such authority to subregional groups of such cities and towns. The commission may  
144 enter into cooperative agreements with other planning commissions or regional councils of  
145 government to provide such regional services.

146 Regional services provided to member municipalities shall be determined by the  
147 commission and may include any service which may be provided by the municipality or any  
148 other public entity in the commonwealth.

149 Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, any city or town  
150 which is a member of the commission may enter into a cooperative agreement with said  
151 commission to perform jointly or for the other or in cooperation with other member cities and  
152 towns, any service, activity or undertaking which such city or town is authorized by law to  
153 perform.

154 All cooperative agreements entered into by member cities and towns pursuant to  
155 Section 3A are voluntary, and notwithstanding any other law, require authorization by the  
156 relevant Board of Selectmen or City Council, with the approval of the mayor.

157           Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, the commission is  
158 authorized to enter into contracts and agreements with any department, agency or subdivision of  
159 the federal or state government and any individual, corporation, association or public authority to  
160 provide or receive services, facilities, staff assistance or money payments in connection with the  
161 work of the commission, and the commission may contribute or receive services, facilities, staff  
162 assistance or money payments as consideration such contracts and agreements.

163           SECTION 12. Section 2 of chapter 561 of the Acts of 1973 is hereby amended by  
164 inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraphs:-

165           Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, the Commission  
166 may administer and provide regional services to the county and town. The Commission may  
167 enter into cooperative agreements with other planning commissions or regional councils of  
168 government to provide such regional services.

169           Regional services provided to the county and town shall be determined by the  
170 Commission and may include any service which may be provided by the municipality or any  
171 other public entity in the commonwealth.

172 Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, the county and town which is  
173 a member of the Commission may enter into a cooperative agreement with said Commission to  
174 perform jointly any service, activity or undertaking which such county or town is authorized by  
175 law to perform.

176           All agreements entered into by the county or town pursuant to this section are  
177 voluntary, and notwithstanding any other law, require authorization by the Board of Selectmen.

178           Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, the Commission is  
179 authorized to enter into contracts and agreements with any department, agency or subdivision of  
180 the federal or state government and any individual, corporation, association or public authority to  
181 provide or receive services, facilities, staff assistance or money payments in connection with the  
182 work of the Commission, and the Commission may contribute or receive services, facilities, staff  
183 assistance or money payments as consideration such contracts and agreements.

184           SECTION 13. Section 2 of chapter 332 of the Acts of 1967 is hereby amended by  
185 inserting after the seventh paragraph the following section:-

186           Section 2A. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, the  
187 Council may administer and provide regional services to member cities and towns and may  
188 delegate such authority to subregional groups of such cities and towns. The Council may enter  
189 into cooperative agreements with other planning commissions or regional councils of  
190 government to provide such regional services.

191           Regional services provided to member municipalities shall be determined by the  
192 Council and may include any service which may be provided by the municipality or any other  
193 public entity in the commonwealth.

194           Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, any city or town  
195 which is a member of the Council may enter into a cooperative agreement with said Council to  
196 perform jointly or for the other or in cooperation with other member cities and towns, any  
197 service, activity or undertaking which such city or town is authorized by law to perform.

198 All agreements entered into by member cities and towns pursuant to this section are  
199 voluntary, and notwithstanding any other law, require authorization by the relevant Board of  
200 Selectmen or City Council, with the approval of the mayor.

201 SECTION 14. Subsection (U) of Section 567 of chapter 151 of the Acts of 1996 is  
202 hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraphs:-

203 Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, the Franklin Council of Governments  
204 may administer and provide regional services to member cities and towns and may delegate such  
205 authority to subregional groups of such cities and towns. The Council of Governments may enter  
206 into cooperative agreements with other planning commissions or regional councils of  
207 government to provide such regional services.

208 Regional services provided to member municipalities shall be determined by the  
209 Council of Governments Committee and may include any service which may be provided by the  
210 municipality or any other public entity in the commonwealth.

211 All agreements entered into by member cities and towns pursuant to this section are  
212 voluntary, and notwithstanding any other law, require authorization by the relevant Board of  
213 Selectmen or City Council, with the approval of the mayor.

214 Notwithstanding the provisions of any other section in this chapter, the Franklin  
215 Council of Governments is authorized to enter into contracts and agreements with any  
216 department, agency or subdivision of the federal or state government and any individual,  
217 corporation, association or public authority to provide or receive services, facilities, staff  
218 assistance or money payments in connection with the work of the commission, and the

219 commission may contribute or receive services, facilities, staff assistance or money payments as  
220 consideration such contracts and agreements.

221 SECTION 15. Section 2 of chapter 40D of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
222 striking out, in the first paragraph, the words “a town at an annual meeting or a special meeting  
223 called for the purpose” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- by the board of  
224 selectmen, in a town.

225 SECTION 16. Said section 2 of said chapter 40D is hereby amended by striking out, in  
226 the third paragraph, the words “at an annual or special town meeting” and inserting in place  
227 thereof the following words:- its board of selectmen.

228 SECTION 17. Section 3 of chapter 121C of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
229 striking out the words “a town at an annual town meeting or a special town meeting called for the  
230 purpose” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- by the board of selectmen in a  
231 town.

232 SECTION 18. Section 30B of chapter 41, as amended by section 26 of Chapter 188 of  
233 the Acts of 2010, is hereby amended by striking out the words “by vote of their legislative  
234 bodies” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- by vote of the city council with the  
235 approval of the mayor, in a city, and by vote of the board of selectmen, in a town.

236 SECTION 19. Section 27B of chapter 111, is hereby amended by striking out the  
237 words “and by vote of a town at a regular annual town meeting” and inserting in place thereof  
238 the following words:- and by a vote of the board of selectmen.

239 SECTION 20. Said section 27B of said chapter 111 is hereby amended by striking the  
240 words “at a town meeting” and inserting in place thereof the following:- by vote of the board of  
241 selectmen.

242 SECTION 21. Section 44A of chapter 40, is hereby amended by striking out the words  
243 “a town meeting” and inserting thereof the following words:- the board of selectmen.

244 SECTION 22. Said section 44A of said chapter 40, is hereby amended by striking the  
245 word “moderator” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- board of selectmen.

246 SECTION 23. Said section 44A of said chapter 40, is hereby amended by striking  
247 Section 44E and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

248 Section 44E. The selectmen of each of the several towns, upon receipt of a  
249 recommendation that a regional refuse disposal district be established, shall vote on accepting  
250 such plan. The mayors of the several cities, upon receipt of a recommendation that a regional  
251 refuse disposal district be established, shall submit the question of accepting such plan to the city  
252 council within sixty days after receipt of the recommendation.

253 If a majority of the members of each city council voting on the question and the board  
254 of selectmen in each town shall vote in the affirmative, the proposed regional refuse disposal  
255 district shall be deemed to be established forthwith in accordance with the terms of the proposed  
256 agreement.”

257 SECTION 24. Subsection subsection (f) of said section 44 of said chapter is hereby  
258 amended by striking the words “a majority of the voters present and voting on the matter at a

259 town meeting called for the purpose of expressing such disapproval” and inserting in place  
260 thereof the following words:- the board of selectmen.

261 SECTION 25. Section 3 of chapter 115, is hereby amended by striking out the last  
262 sentence in the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:-

263 Two or more municipalities may, by approval of the mayor or manager in a city or by  
264 vote of the board of selectmen in a town, appoint one person to serve as veterans’ agent for such  
265 municipalities and may apportion the payment of compensation among such municipalities.

266 SECTION 26. Section 10 of said chapter 115, is hereby amended by striking out the  
267 first sentence of the second paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:-

268 Two or more municipalities may, in a city by vote of the city council thereof, and in a  
269 town by vote of the selectmen thereof, form a district for the purposes set forth in the first  
270 paragraph of this section, including the appointment and compensation of a director of veterans’  
271 services, for the enforcement therein of such purposes and of such other provisions of law as it  
272 may be his duty to enforce.

273 SECTION 27. The General Laws are hereby amended by inserting after section 4A of  
274 chapter 40 the following section:-

275 Section 4A½. (a) For purposes of this section, the following words shall have the following  
276 meanings:-

277 “Governmental unit”, a city, town or a regional school district, a district as defined in section 1A,  
278 a regional planning commission, however constituted, a regional transit authority established

279 under chapter 161B, a water and sewer commission established under chapter 40N or by special  
280 law, a county, or a state agency as defined in section 1 of chapter 6A.

281 “Joint powers agreement”, a contract specifying the terms and conditions of the joint exercise of  
282 powers and duties entered into by participating governmental units pursuant to the laws  
283 governing any such unit and the provisions of this section.

284 “Region”, any geographically-designated area within which the powers and duties provided in a  
285 joint powers agreement shall be exercised.

286 (b) Notwithstanding any general law or special act to the contrary, the chief executive  
287 officer of a city or town, or a board, committee or officer authorized by law to execute a contract  
288 in the name of a governmental unit may, on behalf of the unit, enter into a joint powers  
289 agreement with another governmental unit for the joint exercise of any of their common powers  
290 and duties within a designated region. The joint powers agreement shall be authorized by the  
291 parties thereto in the following manner: in a city by the city council with the approval of the  
292 mayor, in a town by the board of selectmen and in a district by the prudential committee. A  
293 decision to enter into a joint powers agreement under this section, or to join an existing region,  
294 shall not be subject to bargaining under chapter 150E.

295 (c) The joint powers agreement shall specify:

296 (1) its purpose and the method by which the purpose sought shall be  
297 accomplished;

298 (2) the services, activities or undertakings to be jointly performed within the  
299 region;

300 (3) the specific organization, composition and nature of any separate legal or  
301 administrative entity created thereby to perform the services, activities or undertakings within the  
302 region, and the specific powers and duties delegated thereto, provided such entity may be legally  
303 created. Such entity may include an independent entity created pursuant to subsection (d), a  
304 nonprofit corporation organized pursuant to chapter 180 whose membership is limited solely to  
305 the participating governmental units, a limited partnership organized pursuant to chapter 109  
306 whose membership is limited solely to the participating governmental units, or a limited liability  
307 company organized under chapter 156C whose membership is limited solely to the participating  
308 governmental units. The funds of any such entity, corporation, limited partnership, or limited  
309 liability company shall be subject to audit in the manner provided by law for the auditing of  
310 public funds.

311 (4) the manner of financing the joint services, activities or undertakings  
312 within the region and of establishing and maintaining a budget therefore;

313 (5) any procedures related to the termination of the joint powers agreement,  
314 the withdrawal of any participating governmental unit and the addition of any new governmental  
315 units.

316 (6) its duration.

317 (d) A joint powers agreement may create a new independent entity for the purposes of  
318 carrying out the powers and duties of a region. The powers of an entity established pursuant to  
319 this subsection shall include, but not be limited to, the power to: (1) sue and be sued; (2) make  
320 and execute contracts and other instruments necessary for the exercise of the powers of the  
321 region; (3) make and from time to time amend and repeal policies and procedures relative to the

322 operation of the region; (4) receive and expend funds; (5) apply for and receive grants from the  
323 commonwealth, the federal government and from other grantors; and (6) any such other powers  
324 as are necessary to properly carry out its powers as an independent entity.

325 Such entity shall be governed by a board of directors comprised of at least one member  
326 representing each participating governmental unit. The board of directors shall coordinate the  
327 activities of the region and may establish any policies and procedures necessary to do so.

328           The board of directors shall establish and manage a fund to which all monies  
329 contributed by the participating governmental units, and all grants and gifts from the federal or  
330 state government or any other source shall be deposited. The board of directors shall appoint a  
331 treasurer who may be a treasurer of one of the participating governmental units. The treasurer,  
332 subject to the direction and approval of the board of directors, shall be authorized to receive,  
333 invest and disburse all funds of the region without further appropriation. The treasurer shall give  
334 bond for the faithful performance of his duties in a form and amount as fixed by the board of  
335 directors.

336           The board of directors may borrow money, enter into long or short-term loan  
337 agreements or mortgages and apply for state, federal or corporate grants or contracts to obtain  
338 funds necessary to carry out the purposes of the region. The board of directors may enter into  
339 contracts for the purchase of supplies, materials and services and for the purchase or lease of  
340 land, buildings and equipment as deemed necessary.

341           The entity shall be deemed to be a public employer and the board of directors may  
342 employ personnel to carry out the purposes of the joint powers agreement and establish the  
343 duties, compensation and other terms and conditions of employment of personnel.

344 (e) A participating governmental unit shall not liable for the acts or omission of  
345 another participating government unit or the region or any entity created by the joint powers  
346 agreement, unless the participating governmental unit has agreed otherwise in the joint powers  
347 agreement.

348 SECTION 28. There shall be established and set upon the books of the commonwealth  
349 a separate fund to be known as the Regionalization Incentive and Implementation Fund.  
350 Amounts credited to the fund shall be administered by the division of local services within the  
351 department of revenue which shall determine that the funds are used for activities consistent with  
352 the purpose of this act and the Massachusetts management and accounting report system. The  
353 amounts shall be used, without further appropriation, solely for the administration and  
354 implementation of this section.

355 The fund shall be a separate and expendable trust fund administered by the division of  
356 local services within the department of revenue. There shall be credited to the fund, revenue  
357 from appropriations or other monies authorized by the general court and specifically designated  
358 to be credited to the fund and investment income earned on the fund's assets, and all other  
359 sources. Money remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General  
360 Fund, and shall be allocated to the fund the following fiscal year.

361 One hundred percent of the monies deposited in the Regional Incentive and  
362 Implementation Fund, but not more than \$4,000,000.00 in the aggregate in any fiscal year, shall  
363 be used by the department of housing and community development within the executive office of  
364 housing and economic development to provide grants on a competitive basis to districts and  
365 municipalities, including councils of government and regional planning agencies that are

366 applying on behalf of two or more municipal entities, to fund the regionalization of municipal  
367 services including, but not limited to, the areas of planning, implementation, transitional costs,  
368 staff, operations, equipment, hardware, facilities, the subsidization of salaries for positions to  
369 perform municipal functions jointly and projects to implement joint services, and related subject  
370 areas.

371           Grant applications shall be reviewed by a panel including the department of housing  
372 and community development, executive office of administration and finance and department of  
373 revenue division of local services.

374           The department of housing and community development shall promulgate rules and  
375 regulations for the administration of the Regionalization Incentive and Implementation Fund.