

CITY OF AMESBURY
IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY ONE

SPONSORED BY: _____ **BILL No. 2021-** _____
Kassandra Gove, Mayor

An Order amending An Order authorizing submission of a Home Rule Petition, whether in the same bill or in four parts, by the Mayor to the Governor and General Court seeking approval of changes to the City's Home Rule Charter

Summary: This authorizes filing of a Home Rule petition with the General Court seeking approval of amendments to the Charter as proposed by the Charter Review Commission. The original 1980 charter was updated in 1996 and amended by the Legislature and voters in 2011. Of four Home Rule Petition parts, one applies upon its enactment, and three others will be submitted to the voters at an election.

Be it Ordered by the City Council of the City of Amesbury assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

WHEREAS, Section 9-9 of the Amesbury Home Rule Charter provides for the appointment of a Charter review committee to issue a report with recommended changes to the Charter, and

WHEREAS, a Charter review committee, referred to as the "Charter Review Commission," was established in 2018 by the then Mayor and City Council but never appointed thereto, and

WHEREAS, a new Charter Review Commission was established by the current Mayor and City Council in early 2020 with members duly appointed, and

WHEREAS, the Charter Review Commission met on fourteen (14) occasions from June-December 2020 to review the existing Charter, to seek public input through a survey and a public meeting, to receive expert counsel from the Collins Center at UMass Boston, and to propose recommendations to amend the Charter.

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to file a Home Rule Petition with the General Court, whether in the same bill or in four parts, through its State Senator and State Representative, authorizing the following amendments to the City Charter; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Mayor approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General

Court within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, and to authorize the Mayor to approve such amendments: