

**CITY OF LAWRENCE
AMENDMENT TO THE
LAWRENCE CITY CHARTER
DOC. 39-2010**

**[MEASURES FORWARDED TO ATTORNEY GENERAL
FOR REVIEW – G.L. c. 43B APPROVED FOR FURTHER
PROCEEDINGS TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE]**

REPORT DATE: JANUARY 20, 2015

**SEE ATTACHED CORRESPONDENCE TO
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DATED 10-1-14
DECLINING JURISDICTION ON THE FOLLOWING HOME RULE
PETITIONS APPROVED BY COUNCIL AND MAYOR**

DATE: JANUARY 20, 2015
TO: LAWRENCE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
RE: City of Lawrence, MA – City Charter Amendments
City Document Number: 39-2010 B, C, D, E, H, K

In accord with the provisions of G.L. c. 43B, The Office of the Attorney General has declined jurisdiction of the following Home Rule Petitions approved by the City Council and the Mayor.

As a result, all will be forwarded to the Legislature for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for further proceedings for approval:

RE: City of Lawrence, MA – City Charter Amendments
City Document Number: 39-2010 B, C, D, E, H, K

Doc. 2010-39-B-City Charter Sec. 3.8(d) – Amendment;
TITLE: Publication and Public Hearing Required;
Summary: Notices of Public Hearing to be posted on City Web Site in addition to other media publication.

Doc. 2010-39-C-City Charter Sec. 3.4(a);
TITLE: Prohibitions;
Summary: Amendment provides that City Council Members cannot hold compensated or uncompensated positions with the City of Lawrence.

Doc. 2010-39-D-City Charter Sec. 3.5(d)(iv) – Amendment;

TITLE: Housing Subcommittee;

Summary: Further defines the scope of the Housing Subcommittee adding “. . . . *and real property related matters*”.

Doc. 2010-39-E-City Charter Sec. Sec. 3.6(a) Amendment - Sec. 3.6(a);

Summary: Removes the authority of the City Council in regard to the process of appointment or removal of the Board of Assessors from this section of the City Charter.

Doc. 2010-39-H-City Charter Sec. 5.6(a):

TITLE: Prohibitions;

Summary: Amendment Strikes the words “*under the jurisdiction of the school committee*” appearing in section 5.6 resulting in an amended section 5.6(a).

Doc. 2010-39-K-City Charter Sec. Sec. 8.3 – Amendment;

TITLE: Preliminary Elections;

Summary: Confirms the City Charter amendment approved by the State Legislature on October 14, 2004 pursuant to Ch. 374 of the Acts of 2004 requiring “. . . *not less than fifty signatures of voters* . . .” to be obtained by municipal candidates seeking nomination for the *office of district councilor*.

All measures were introduced by the Ordinance Committee [a Subcommittee of the Lawrence City Council] and presented to the Lawrence City Council. All measures presented have been approved at a public hearing ordered by vote of the Lawrence City Council and public hearing order entered on 3-4-14. The public notice of hearing appeared in RUMBO newspaper on 4-8-14, a publication of general circulation in the City of Lawrence on [copy of the tear sheet enclosed]. The City Council conducted public sessions on the measures presented on April 15, 2014, April 22, 2014, May 6, 2014, May 20, 2014, June 3, 2014 and June 17, 2014. Each session of the Lawrence City Council concerning Document 2010-39 [all City Charter Amendments] were convened upon a motion to “continue public hearings” and “table” all items subject to Doc. 2010-39 approved by the Council Members present by majority vote [as reflected in the City Council Minutes of each session conducted][not attached]. All measures presented for review are approved by vote of two-thirds of the Lawrence City Council Members [a nine member Council] with petition copies signed by the Council Members and Mayor Daniel Rivera [the Lawrence Mayor at the time of the recorded vote and presently].



MARTHA COAKLEY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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October 1, 2014

William J. Maloney, City Clerk
City of Lawrence
City Hall, Room 107
200 Common Street
Lawrence, MA 01840

RE: City of Lawrence City Council Meeting of April 15, 2014 - Case # 7355
City Document Number: 39-2010 B, C, D, E, H, and K (Charter Amendments)

Dear Mr. Maloney:

Thank you for your letter dated September 24, 2014, with the enclosed City Document Number: 39-2010 B, C, D, E, H, and K. We take no action on City Document Number: 39-2010 B, C, D, E, H, and K, because they are votes to petition the Legislature to amend various sections of the City's Charter. These votes are not charter amendments adopted pursuant to G.L. c. 43B, which require review and approval by the Attorney General. See G.L. c. 43B, § 10 (c). Therefore, they are not required to be submitted to the Attorney General's office for review and approval.

Thank you again, and please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Very truly yours,
MARTHA COAKLEY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Kelli E. Gunagan

By: Kelli E. Gunagan, Assistant Attorney General
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10 Mechanic Street, Suite 301
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(508) 792-7600

cc: City Attorney Charles D. Boddy, Jr.
Department of Housing and Community Development

FILED
JAN 16 2015
CITY CLERK
LAWRENCE, MA
9:00 AM