



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 62**

January Session, 2021

Senate Bill No. 699

*Senate, March 16, 2021*

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through SEN. CASSANO of the 4th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING ALTERNATE MEMBERS OF MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSIONS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 8-19a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

3 Any municipality, in addition to such powers as it has under the  
4 provisions of the general statutes or any special act, shall have the power  
5 to provide by ordinance for the appointment or election of alternate  
6 members to its planning commission. Such alternate members shall be  
7 electors, and, when seated as herein provided, have all the powers and  
8 duties set forth in the general statutes or any special act relating to such  
9 municipality for such commission and its members. Such alternate  
10 members [shall be electors and shall not be members of the zoning  
11 commission or zoning board of appeals. Such alternates] may attend all  
12 meetings and executive sessions of said commission. Any alternate  
13 member who also serves or served on the zoning commission or zoning  
14 board of appeals in such municipality shall recuse himself or herself

15 from participation in any appeal before the planning commission from  
16 a decision of the zoning commission or zoning board of appeals, if such  
17 alternate member participated in such decision. Such ordinance shall  
18 provide for the manner of designating alternates to act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	8-19a

**PD**      *Joint Favorable*

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

There is no fiscal impact resulting from the bill, which permits alternate members of a town's planning commission to also serve on its zoning commission if they recuse themselves from zoning matters that come before the planning commission.

**The Out Years****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 699*****AN ACT CONCERNING ALTERNATE MEMBERS OF MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSIONS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill allows zoning commission or zoning board of appeals (ZBA) members to serve as alternates on a municipality's planning commission, provided such alternates recuse themselves from any appeal before the planning commission that he or she heard as a member of the zoning commission or appeals board.

Existing law, unchanged by the bill, prohibits planning commission or ZBA members from serving as alternates on the municipality's zoning commissions or combined planning and zoning commissions (CGS § 8-1b).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2021

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/02/2021)