

**ARTICLE 26**

**AMEND HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION**

**ENABLING LEGISLATION**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the Massachusetts General Court for an act to amend Chapter 447 of the Acts of 1956, "AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION FOR THE TOWN OF LEXINGTON AND DEFINING ITS POWERS AND DUTIES, AND ESTABLISHING HISTORIC DISTRICTS IN THE TOWN OF LEXINGTON", as previously amended, in substantially the below, and further to authorize the Select Board to approve amendments to the bill before enactment to the General Court that are within the scope of the general objectives of the petition, as follows:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representative in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:*

**Section 1.** Chapter 447 of the Acts of 1956, as previously amended, is hereby amended by replacing the words "Arts and Crafts Society" with the words "Chamber of Commerce" wherever they appear, and by deleting the words "and a secretary" in section 4 of said Act.

*(Inserted by the Select Board at the request of the Historic Districts Commission)*

DESCRIPTION: Chapter 447, the governing legislation for Historic Districts regulation and review, has not been substantially revised or amended since its original passage in 1956 and has not been revised or amended at all in nearly two decades. The Historic Districts Commission is proposing this amendment to streamline and strengthen the process of appointing members to the Historic Districts Commission, thus broadening the availability of qualified, willing applicants to serve as Historic District Commission members, and delete the unnecessary requirement that a secretary be elected as that role is fulfilled by a staff member.