

HB 1754 -- HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS

SPONSOR: Bahr

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on General Laws by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill specifies that a deed restriction, covenant, or similar binding agreement running with a parcel of land cannot prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting the display of political signs. A homeowners' association may adopt reasonable rules regarding political signs as specified in the bill. A homeowners' association may not remove a sign or impose a fine or penalty unless written notice of a reasonable rule violation has been given and a three-day time period has passed.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that political signs are an expression of free speech and homeowners' associations should not be allowed to infringe upon individual homeowners' right to free speech.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Bahr and ACLU.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.