

**Initiative Petition  
Article 8, Section 3 of the  
Home Rule Charter**

Town Council:

We, the undersigned voters, respectfully submit this initiative petition pursuant to Article 8-3 of the Home Rule Charter.

Our actions are prompted by the Health Board's recent mask mandate. The Health Board members are unelected and have no accountability to the residents of East Longmeadow. Nevertheless, their mask mandates significantly affect all of us.

Residents deserve more control over who will serve as a Health Board member. They also need some way to challenge unwanted or controversial Health Board policies.

Our two initiatives would do this by (1) allowing voters to choose Health Board members through the election process and (2) making the Health Board subject to the "Citizen Relief Mechanisms" in Article 8 of the town's Charter.

In accordance with Article 8-3(a) of the Charter, we constitute the petitioners committee which is responsible for circulating the petition and filing it in proper form pursuant to subsection (c).

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### **Proposed Initiative I**

- (1) Upon passage of this initiative, the Town Manager's power to appoint Health Board members shall end.
- (2) Health Board members shall be chosen by the voters through the election process.
- (3) The current Health Board members may continue to serve until the end of their present terms.
- (4) At the end of each Health Board member's present term, his or her membership on the said board shall be filled by the Health Board candidate with the highest number of votes in the town's next annual election.
- (5) This initiative shall supersede any and all contrary provisions in the Town's Charter or By-Laws.

### **Proposed Initiative II**

Upon passage of this initiative, Article 8 of the Home Rule Charter entitled "Citizen Relief Mechanisms" shall be revised to incorporate the Health Board as follows:

- (1) Article 8, Section 2, the words "or the Health Board" shall be inserted after each instance of "School Committee" and the words "or the Health Board Secretary" shall be inserted after each instance of "Secretary of the School Committee."
- (2) Article 8, Section 3, the words "or the Health Board" shall be inserted after each instance of "School Committee" and the words "or the Health Board Secretary" shall be inserted after each instance of "Secretary of the School Committee."
- (3) Article 8, Section 4, the words "or the Health Board" shall be inserted after each instance of "School Committee" and the words "or the Health Board Secretary" shall be inserted after each instance of "Secretary of the School Committee."