

**File Number:** H.F. 330  
**Version:** As introduced

**Date:** January 27, 2017

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**Subject:** Local planning; interim ordinances, housing

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An interim ordinance, also referred to as a moratorium, is an ordinance to protect the planning process while the city or town is studying changes to or adoption of a local comprehensive plan and official controls (zoning, subdivision controls, site plan regulations, sanitary codes, building codes and official maps). It may be in effect for up to one year and in some cases may be extended for up to 18 months more. Except for an interim ordinance affecting livestock production, no notice or hearing is required to adopt an interim ordinance (but is required to extend it).

This bill requires a two-thirds vote of all members of the governing body to adopt an interim ordinance.

The bill also requires a public hearing after a ten-day notice before an interim ordinance affecting housing activities may take effect. This is substantially the same as is currently required for interim ordinances affecting livestock production.

Effective for interim ordinances proposed on or after August 1, 2017.