



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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LAW DEPARTMENT

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JOHN A. SERINO
LEGISLATIVE AGENT

June 20, 1973

Mr. Paul E. Healy
City Clerk
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Healy:

You have asked my opinion as to how many votes are required to pass an ordinance from first to second reading where by statute said ordinance can only be "enacted by a two thirds vote."

In my opinion "enactment" means final passage of a measure.

The purposes of the time interval requirement of readings are to secure public notice and prevent undue haste in deliberation by the legislative body before the final passage of an ordinance. See McQuillin, Municipal Corporations Sec. 16.30.

It is therefore my opinion that the preliminary steps to final passage may be effected in the usual manner, namely, a majority vote.

Very truly yours,

Edward D. McCarthy

Edward D. McCarthy
Acting City Solicitor

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Communication from the Acting City

Solicitor re: to the number of votes required in passing an ordinance to a second reading.

In City Council

June 25, 1973

6/25/73

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