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ROSENBERG SEEKS REGISTRY OF DEEDS REFORM

BILL WOULD SAVE STATE \$600,000 ANNUALLY

State Senator Stan Rosenberg (D-Amherst), President Pro Tem of the Massachusetts Senate, is filing a bill that would save the Commonwealth approximately \$600,000 a year by eliminating seven elected Registry of Deeds positions in five counties.

Rosenberg's plan calls for eliminating the current system, where Registry of Deeds officials are elected either by regional districts or counties, in favor of a uniform system that elects such officials only by county. Nine out of 14 counties in the Commonwealth already use such a system. The result would be that seven positions – located in Berkshire, Bristol, Essex, Middlesex and Worcester counties, where district elections still take place – would be eliminated in the 2012 election. Under Rosenberg's proposal, each Massachusetts county would retain one registrar to serve the residents of that county.

The Commonwealth would begin to realize savings from the elimination of the seven positions beginning in 2013.

“The present system is simply inefficient and duplicative,” Rosenberg said. “There is no reason to have a separate registrar for each office. In Hampden County, for example, we have one registrar overseeing two offices, so we know it can be done. Legislators owe it to the taxpayers of this state to find better, more efficient ways of doing business wherever we can, and eliminating duplicative management is one way to save money.”