An Act relating to Conservation Easements; creation; approval by governing body.

# Section 1. Amending (insert legislation that must be amended if applicable)Section 2. In order to minimize conflicts with land-use planning, each conservation easement shall be approved by the appropriate governing body. Such approving body shall first refer the proposed acquisition to and receive comments from the local planning commission with jurisdiction over such property, which shall within sixty days of the referral provide such comments regarding the conformity of the proposed acquisition to comprehensive planning for the area. If such comments are not received within sixty days, the proposed acquisition shall be deemed approved by the local planning commission. If the property is located partially or entirely within the boundaries or zoning jurisdiction of a city or village, approval of the governing body of such city or village shall be required. If such property is located entirely outside the boundaries and zoning jurisdiction of any city or village, approval of the county board shall be required. Approval of a proposed acquisition may be denied upon a finding by the appropriate governing body that the acquisition is not in the public interest when the easement is inconsistent with (a) a comprehensive plan for the area which had been officially adopted and was in force at the time of the conveyance, (b) any national, state, regional, or local program furthering conservation, or (c) any known proposal by a governmental body for use of the land.