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## INTRODUCTION

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## WESTERN NEW ENGLAND LAW REVIEW

### INTRODUCTION

This Symposium issue is a result of papers presented at a Housing Conference held at the Western New England College School of Law on December 10, 1999. Since Massachusetts enacted the first-in-the-nation comprehensive permit statute in 1969, authorizing a state administrative agency to override a local zoning decision and to issue a comprehensive permit for affordable housing construction, only four other states—California, Connecticut, Rhode Island and New Jersey—have enacted similar statutes. The Conference provided a first-ever comparative assessment of the accomplishments, strengths and weaknesses of the statutes and their enforcement in the three New England states and New Jersey. The papers from this Conference are being published in two separate issues: Volume 22, Issue 2, and Volume 23, Issue 1 (2001). Both of these issues will be consolidated later into a single Symposium issue. If you would like to purchase this consolidated issue, it will be available from William S. Hein & Co., Inc., Buffalo, New York, 14209; phone number (800)-828-7571. For further information contact the *Western New England Law Review* at Western New England College School of Law, 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts, 01119. Inquiries are also accepted by telephone at (413) 782-1463 and by fax at (413) 782-1788.