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APPENDIX B: AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONFERENCE HONOREES

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APPENDIX B

Honorees—Affordable Housing Conference

At a luncheon ceremony, the Law School honored some of the many people who have supported and sustained the Massachusetts Comprehensive Permit Statute, chapter 774 of the Acts of 1969, helping with its enactment in 1969 and its implementation and continued existence for the past thirty years. President Anthony Caprio and Massachusetts State Representative Gail Candaras, L '84, read a proclamation issued by the Massachusetts legislature and also presented a commemorative plaque with the following inscription:

For your efforts in support of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Permit Statute, Chapter 774 of the Acts of 1969

The Law School honored the following persons and institutions:

Honorable David Bartley, President, Holyoke Community College, Holyoke, Massachusetts. President Bartley was the Speaker of the Massachusetts General Court at the time of the passage of the statute.

Honorable Joe Moakley, Member, United States Congress, Ninth Congressional District, Massachusetts. At the time of the passage of the statute, Congressman Moakley was member of the Massachusetts Senate and the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Urban Affairs, which prepared the reports that led to the passage of the statute.

Martin Linsky, consultant and lecturer, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Attorney Linsky was the Minority leader in the Massachusetts General Court and the leader of Republican support for the passage of the statute and for its signature by then Governor Francis Sargent.

Augusto Grace, attorney in the Administrative Offices of the Massachusetts Superior Court, Boston, Massachusetts. Attorney Grace was a State Representative and co-chair of the Legislature's Special Commission to Investigate the Comprehensive Permit Statute in 1989. The report of the Special Commission recommended that the statute not be amended but that the administrative agencies take specific steps to introduce greater flexibility and responsiveness into the implementation of the statute, which led, among other things, to the creation of the Local Initiative Program.

Honorable Frederick E. Barry, Massachusetts State Senator from the Second Essex District. Senator Barry was the co-chair, with then-Representative Grace, of the Legislature's Special Commission to Investigate the Comprehensive Permit Statute in 1989. The report of the Special Commission recommended that the statute not be amended but that the administrative agencies take specific steps to introduce greater flexibility and responsiveness into the implementation of the statute, which led, among other things, to the creation of the Local Initiative Program.

Allan Rodgers, Director of the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute ("MLRI"), Boston, Massachusetts. Attorney Rodgers assisted the work of MLRI attorneys in preparing the draft bills that became the Massachusetts Comprehensive Permit Statute and wrote the first law review article describing and analyzing the statute, *Snob Zoning in Massachusetts*, 1970 ANN. SURV. MASS. L. 487 (1970), an article which was cited favorably by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court in its first decision interpreting the statute, *Board of Appeals (Hanover) v. Housing Appeals Comm.*, 363 Mass. 339 (1973).

Alex Kovel, attorney and businessperson, Boston, Massachusetts. Attorney Kovel was the staff attorney at MLRI with primary responsibility for drafting and redrafting the bills that became the Massachusetts Comprehensive Permit Statute.

The Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency ("MHFA") has been the "leading lender" for comprehensive permit developments, providing the financing necessary to make affordable housing a reality. Created by an act of the legislature in 1965, the Senate Special Commission that recommended the adoption of the comprehensive permit statute noted that MHFA could not achieve its goals if there was not a means to overcome unfounded local opposition to worth-

while affordable housing developments. MHFA has been involved in most family developments proposed or built under the Comprehensive Permit Statute and has worked creatively to assure that the developments have been both successful and sensitive to the needs of the local community. The Conference was particularly pleased and honored that MHFA Executive Director Steven Pierce was present to receive the award on behalf of MHFA, and that former MHFA Director John Eller was present and recognized.