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June 14, 2012

Paula Burke
Town Clerk
Town of Topsfield
8 West Common Street
Topsfield, MA 01983

**RE: Annual Town Meeting of May 1, 2012- Case # 6350
Warrant Articles # 30 and 31 (General)
Warrant Articles # 32 and 33 (Zoning)**

Dear Ms. Burke:

Articles 30, 31, 32 and 33 - We approve the amendments to the Town by-laws adopted under these Articles on the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting that convened on May 1, 2012. Article 30 amends the General By-laws to increase the dog license fee from \$10 to \$15. Article 31 amends the Town's Stormwater and Erosion Control By-law. Article 32 amends the Floodplain District Boundaries and Article 33 amends the description of the zoning districts.

We further return with our approval the map adopted under Article 33 and the map adopted under Article 32. We also remind the Town that if it has not already done so, the Town should submit Article 32 to the DCR Flood Hazard Management Program (FHMP) prior to the effective date of the flood insurance maps. Please contact Richard Zingarelli with any questions.¹

Note: Pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32, neither general nor zoning by-laws take effect unless the town has first satisfied the posting/publishing requirements of that statute. Once this statutory duty is fulfilled, (1) general by-laws and amendments take effect on the date that these

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posting and publishing requirements are satisfied unless a later effective date is prescribed in the by-law, and (2) zoning by-laws and amendments are deemed to have taken effect from the date they were voted by the Town Meeting, unless a later effective date is prescribed in the by-law.

Very truly yours,

MARTHA COAKLEY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

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