

SENATE No. 251

To accompany the petition of John B. Atkinson and others for legislation creating the metropolitan finance council. Metropolitan Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Two.

AN ACT CREATING THE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT FINANCE COUNCIL.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The metropolitan transit finance coun-
2 cil, hereinafter called the council, is hereby established
3 to consist of the mayors, or in cities governed by the
4 Plan E form of charter the city managers, and chair-
5 men of the boards of selectmen of all cities and towns
6 constituting the metropolitan transit authority estab-
7 lished by chapter five hundred and forty-four of the
8 acts of nineteen hundred and forty-seven, hereinafter
9 called the authority. The council shall annually or-
10 ganize by the election of a chairman and a secretary.
11 In voting in the council each mayor, manager and
12 chairman of a board of selectmen shall have one vote
13 for each one hundred million dollars, or fraction
14 thereof, of the amount of property as last previously
15 established by the general court for their respective
16 cities and towns as a basis of apportionment for state

17 and county taxes, and action shall be only by a two-
18 thirds vote of the total number of votes so authorized.
19 All votes authorized by this act to be taken by the
20 council shall be signed by the chairman and secretary
21 of the council and filed with the state secretary.

22 Any of said mayors, managers or chairmen may
23 from time to time designate any registered voter of
24 his city or town as his proxy to attend any or all meet-
25 ings of said council, with all the powers which he would
26 have if personally present; provided, that such desig-
27 nation is by a writing which is signed by such mayor,
28 manager or chairman, filed with the state secretary
29 and has endorsed thereon the certificate of a registrar
30 of voters of such city or town that the person desig-
31 nated is a registered voter thereof, and that a copy of
32 such designation certified by said state secretary is
33 filed with the secretary of the council. All members
34 of the council shall hold office until the qualification of
35 their successors and shall serve without compensation.

1 SECTION 2. The trustees of the metropolitan tran-
2 sit authority shall, between November first and De-
3 cember first of each year, furnish the council with a
4 budget, with detailed estimates of the full amounts
5 deemed necessary for the then ensuing year, stating
6 the amounts of anticipated income and expenses,
7 which will include expenditures for operating expenses,
8 bond issues and all other sources. The council shall
9 have the power to increase, decrease or delete any
10 item submitted in the budget and its decision is to be
11 final. The trustees of the authority shall not incur
12 liabilities in excess of the amounts approved by the
13 council.