

By Mr. Foley and Mr. Harrington of Newton, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 551) of the Massachusetts Teachers Association, by William H. Hebert, executive secretary-treasurer, and John M. Sullivan, associate executive secretary, Daniel J. Foley and Peter F. Harrington for legislation relative to consultation with employee advisory committees in the purchase of group life, death and hospital insurance. Insurance.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-eight.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CONSULTATION WITH EMPLOYEE ADVISORY COMMITTEES IN THE PURCHASE OF GROUP LIFE, DEATH AND HOSPITAL INSURANCE.

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 3 of Chapter 32B of the General Laws, as most re-
 2 cently amended by Chapter 806 of the Acts of 1975, is hereby
 3 amended by striking out the second, third and fourth sentences
 4 of the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the fol-
 5 lowing sentences: —

6 Prior to the purchase or renewal of said insurance, and ex-
 7 ecution of all such agreements or contracts within the limits
 8 established by said sections, the appropriate public authority
 9 shall consult with an advisory committee consisting of seven
 10 persons duly elected or appointed to membership on such com-
 11 mittee by organizations of the employees affected, which com-
 12 mittee shall include at least one teacher, one policeman and
 13 one firefighter, for the purpose of securing the written recom-
 14 mendations of a majority of the membership of said commit-
 15 tee. Said advisory committee shall establish a procedure to
 16 provide a reasonable opportunity for all interested employees
 17 to meet with it so that the recommendations of the commit-
 18 tee will be a fair representation of all employees' interests. If
 19 the appropriate public authority finds that the committee's
 20 recommendations in whole or in part cannot be included with-
 21 in the aforementioned agreements or contracts, at the written

22 request of any member of said committee within thirty days
23 from the effective date of the agreements or contracts, the
24 appropriate public authority shall submit to said member, in
25 writing, the reasons for the rejection of any or all of the
26 recommendations and a copy shall be filed with the commis-
27 sion, provided that the appropriate public authority shall not
28 reduce the risks covered by such insurance or the scope of ben-
29 efits without the written approval of a majority of the mem-
30 bership of such advisory committee, and in the absence of such
31 approval, shall maintain the same level of benefits and shall
32 cover the same risks as in existing policies.