

By Mr. Quinn of Boston, petition of Robert H. Quinn for legislation to authorize the establishment of regional police districts. Public Safety.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Nine.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL POLICE DISTRICTS IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

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

1 Chapter 41 of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
2 inserting after section 99A the following eleven sections  
3 under the caption REGIONAL POLICE DISTRICTS:—

4 *Section 99B.* The purpose of this and the ten following  
5 sections, which shall be designated and may be known as  
6 “THE REGIONAL POLICE DISTRICT LAW,” is to permit two or  
7 more contiguous towns to establish a regional police district  
8 and organize a common police department to serve and  
9 protect the combined jurisdictions.

10 *Section 99C.* Any group of contiguous towns may, by vote  
11 of their respective registered voters, vote to establish a  
12 regional police district, the area of jurisdiction of which shall  
13 be the combined corporate limits of the member towns.

14 *Section 99D.* In towns using official ballots at town elec-  
15 tions, acceptance of the provisions of the regional police  
16 district law shall be by vote in answer to a question placed on  
17 the official ballot at an annual town election as hereinafter  
18 provided, and in towns not using official ballots at town  
19 elections such acceptance shall be by vote at an annual town  
20 meeting. Upon the filing, with the clerk of any town using  
21 official ballots at town elections, of a petition signed by the  
22 board of selectmen requesting that the question of accepting

23 the provisions of the regional police district law be placed  
24 upon the official ballot, the clerk shall place such question on  
25 the official ballot for the next town election occurring more  
26 than thirty days after the filing of such petition. The question  
27 to be voted on shall be:—"Shall the town accept the provi-  
28 sions of section ninety-nine B to ninety-nine L, inclusive, of  
29 chapter forty-one of the General Laws, providing for the  
30 establishment of a regional police district, together with the  
31 town (towns) of . . .?"

32 If a majority of the voters thereon in each town voting on  
33 the question shall vote in the affirmative, the proposed  
34 regional police district shall be deemed to be established.

35 *Section 99E.* A regional police district established under  
36 the provisions of the preceding section shall be a body politic  
37 and corporate with all the powers and duties conferred by law  
38 upon police departments, and with the following additional  
39 powers and duties:

40 (a) To adopt a name and a corporate seal, and the  
41 engraved or printed facsimile of such seal on a bond or note  
42 of the district shall have the same validity and effect as  
43 though such seal were impressed thereon.

44 (b) To sue and be sued, but only to the same extent and  
45 upon the same conditions that a town may sue or be sued.

46 (c) To acquire property within the towns comprising the  
47 district under the provisions of chapter seventy-nine and  
48 section fourteen of chapter forty for the purposes of the  
49 district, and to construct, reconstruct, add to, remodel, make  
50 extraordinary repairs to, equip, organize and operate a police  
51 facility or facilities for the benefit of the towns comprising  
52 the district, and to make any necessary contracts in relation  
53 thereto.

54 (d) To incur debt for the purpose of acquiring land and  
55 constructing, reconstructing, adding to, and equipping a  
56 police building or buildings for a term of not exceeding  
57 twenty years or for the purpose of remodeling and making  
58 extraordinary repairs to a police building or buildings for a  
59 term not exceeding ten years; provided, however, that any  
60 indebtedness so incurred shall not exceed an amount ap-  
61 proved by the emergency finance board; and provided,  
62 further, that written notice of the amount of the debt and of

63 the general purposes for which it was authorized shall be  
64 given to the board of selectmen in each of the towns  
65 comprising the district not later than seven days after the  
66 date on which said debt was authorized by the district  
67 commission; and no debt may be incurred until the expira-  
68 tion of thirty days from the date on which said debt was so  
69 authorized; and prior to the expiration of said period any  
70 member town of the regional police district may hold a town  
71 meeting for the purpose of expressing disapproval of the  
72 amount of debt authorized by the district commission, and if  
73 at such meeting a majority of the voters present and voting  
74 thereon express disapproval of the amount authorized by the  
75 district commission, the said debt shall not be incurred and  
76 the district police commission shall prepare another proposal  
77 which may be the same as any prior proposal and an  
78 authorization to incur debt therefor.

79 (e) To issue bonds and notes in the name and upon the full  
80 faith and credit of said district; said bonds or notes shall be  
81 signed by the chairman and treasurer of the district commis-  
82 sion, except that said chairman by a writing bearing his  
83 written signature and filed in the office of said treasurer,  
84 which writing shall be open to public inspection, may autho-  
85 rize said treasurer to cause to be engraved or printed on said  
86 bonds or notes a facsimile of said chairman's signature, and  
87 such facsimile signature so engraved or printed shall have the  
88 same validity and effect as said chairman's written signature,  
89 and each issue of bonds or notes shall be a separate loan.

90 (f) To receive and disburse funds for any district  
91 purpose.

92 (g) To incur temporary debt in anticipation of revenue to  
93 be received from member towns.

94 (h) To assess member towns for any expenses of the  
95 district.

96 (i) To receive any grants or gifts for the purposes of the  
97 regional district police.

98 (j) To engage legal counsel.

99 (k) To submit an annual report to each of the member  
100 towns, containing a detailed financial statement, and a  
101 statement showing the method by which the annual charges  
102 assessed against each town were computed, together with

103 such additional information relating to the operation and  
104 maintenance of such police protection as may be deemed  
105 necessary by the district police commission or by the select-  
106 men of any member town.

107 (l) To employ a chief of police who shall have all the  
108 powers and duties imposed upon chiefs of police by law.

109 (m) To adopt an annual operating and maintenance  
110 budget, not later than December first.

111 *Section 99F.* The powers, duties and liabilities of a regional  
112 police district shall be vested in and exercised by a regional  
113 police district commission organized by the boards of select-  
114 men of the member towns. Each said board shall appoint two  
115 members of the commission within three months of the  
116 adoption of the regional police district law, for terms of such  
117 length and so arranged that the term of one appointee will  
118 expire each year, and their successors shall be appointed in a  
119 like manner for terms of two years. Vacancies shall be filled in  
120 a like manner for the unexpired term. All members shall serve  
121 without compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses  
122 actually incurred in the transaction of the business of the  
123 commission. The commission shall choose annually a chair-  
124 man and a vice chairman by ballot from its membership. The  
125 vice chairman shall, in the absence of the chairman, exercise  
126 the powers and perform the duties of said chairman. It shall  
127 appoint a secretary and a treasurer who may be the same  
128 person, but who need not be members of said commission.  
129 The treasurer shall receive and take charge of all money  
130 belonging to the district, and shall pay any bill of the district  
131 which shall have been approved by the commission. The  
132 commission may appoint an assistant treasurer who need not  
133 be a member of the commission, and who shall, in the absence  
134 of the treasurer, perform his duties and shall have the powers  
135 and be subject to the requirements and penalties applicable  
136 to him. The treasurer and assistant treasurer may, by vote of  
137 said commission, be compensated for their services. The  
138 treasurer and assistant treasurer of said district shall be  
139 subject to the provisions of sections thirty-five, fifty-two and  
140 one hundred and nine A of chapter forty-one, to the extent  
141 applicable. If the office of secretary is vacant or if the  
142 secretary is absent or is unable to perform his duties because

143 of disability, the commission may appoint a temporary  
144 secretary to hold such office and exercise the powers and  
145 perform the duties thereof until a secretary is duly appointed  
146 or the secretary who was disabled or absent resumes his  
147 duties.

148 *Section 99G.* The regional police district commission shall  
149 annually determine the amounts necessary to be raised to  
150 maintain and operate the district police during the ensuing  
151 calendar year, and the amounts required for payment of debt  
152 and interest incurred by the district which will be due in the  
153 said year, and shall apportion the amount so determined  
154 among the member towns in accordance with the provisions  
155 of section ninety-nine I. The amounts so apportioned for each  
156 town shall, prior to December thirty-first in each year, be  
157 certified by the regional police district treasurer to the  
158 treasurers of the member towns. Each town shall, at the next  
159 annual town meeting, appropriate the amounts so certified  
160 and the town treasurer shall pay the amount so appropriated  
161 to said district forthwith.

162 The treasurer of any member town of a regional police  
163 district with the approval of the board of selectmen may,  
164 during the interval between January first and the date when  
165 such town makes the annual appropriation of the amount  
166 apportioned to it as provided in the first paragraph, make  
167 payments to the regional police district from the treasury of  
168 such town from any funds available therein. Such payments  
169 shall not exceed in the aggregate one-third of the amount so  
170 apportioned and shall be charged against such appropria-  
171 tion.

172 For the purpose of organizing a department as provided in  
173 section ninety-nine J, the treasurer of any member town of a  
174 regional police district with the approval of the board of  
175 selectmen may, during the interval between the establish-  
176 ment of the commission as provided in section ninety-nine F  
177 and the following December thirty-first, make payments to  
178 the regional police district from the treasury of such town  
179 from any funds available therein. Such payments shall not  
180 exceed three thousand dollars per member town and shall be  
181 charged against the first annual appropriation.

182 *Section 99H.* The director of accounts in the department of

183 corporations and taxation shall annually cause an audit to be  
184 made of the accounts of the regional police district commis-  
185 sion, and for this purpose he, and his duly accredited agents,  
186 shall have access to all necessary papers, books and records.  
187 Upon the completion of each audit, a report thereon shall be  
188 made to the chairman of the selectmen of each town which is  
189 a member of the district. The director shall apportion the cost  
190 among the member towns on the basis provided by section  
191 ninety-nine I, and submit the amounts of each apportion-  
192 ment to the state treasurer who shall issue his warrant  
193 requiring the assessors of the towns which are members of the  
194 district to assess a tax to the amount of the expense, and such  
195 amounts shall be collected and paid to the state treasurer as  
196 provided by section twenty of chapter fifty-nine.

197 *Section 99I.* Said commission shall, annually not later than  
198 December first, estimate the amount of money required to  
199 pay the costs and expenses of the district for the following  
200 year and shall fix and determine the proportion of such costs  
201 and expenses to be paid by the member towns using the  
202 following formula:

203 Fifty per cent thereof shall be assessed upon all towns in  
204 the district in the proportion which the total equalized  
205 valuation in each said town bears to the total equalized  
206 valuation in the district. When used in this section "equalized  
207 valuation" shall mean the equalized valuation of the aggre-  
208 gate property in a town subject to local taxation, as most  
209 recently reported by the state tax commission to the general  
210 court under the provisions of section ten C of chapter fifty-  
211 eight.

212 Twenty-five per cent thereof shall be assessed upon all  
213 towns in the district in the proportion which the number of  
214 inhabitants in each said town bears to the total number of  
215 inhabitants in the district. The number of inhabitants shall  
216 be determined in accordance with the last preceding federal  
217 census.

218 Twenty-five per cent thereof shall be assessed upon all  
219 towns in the district in the proportion which the total  
220 mileage of state highways and town ways in each said town,  
221 as most recently determined by the state department of

222 public works, bears to the total mileage of state highways and  
223 town ways in the district.

224 *Section 99J.* Each regional police district commission so  
225 established shall organize a district police department, and  
226 such department shall begin operations and otherwise take  
227 effect on January first following acceptance of the provisions  
228 of the regional police district law. Each regional district  
229 police department so established shall succeed any existing  
230 town police departments, whether fully organized or not,  
231 within its district and any such town police departments shall  
232 cease to exist on December thirty-first following acceptance  
233 of the provisions of the regional police district law. Any  
234 pending criminal prosecutions of the police of the member  
235 towns shall be assumed by the district police department, and  
236 all town police employees who immediately prior to the  
237 effective date of the district held positions classified under  
238 chapter thirty-one of the General Laws or had tenure in their  
239 positions by special act shall be transferred to the service of  
240 the district police department upon the establishment of said  
241 department; every such transfer to be without impairment of  
242 civil service status, seniority, retirement and other rights of  
243 the employee, without interruption of his service within the  
244 meaning of said chapter thirty-one or special act, and without  
245 reduction in his compensation and salary grade, notwith-  
246 standing any change in his title or duties made as a result of  
247 such transfer. Said district police department shall be con-  
248 sidered a single town police department as that phrase is used  
249 or implied in the General Laws, and all General Laws  
250 applicable to town police departments shall apply to such  
251 district police departments. Any such district department  
252 shall be under the supervision of an officer known as the chief  
253 of police. The commission shall appoint the chief of police  
254 and such other officers as they deem necessary, and fix their  
255 compensation, not exceeding, in the aggregate, the annual  
256 appropriation therefor. In any such district in which such  
257 appointments are not subject to chapter thirty-one, they  
258 shall be made annually and the commission may remove such  
259 chief or other officers for cause at any time after a hearing.  
260 The chief of police in any such district shall from time to

261 time make suitable regulations governing the police depart-  
262 ment, and the officers thereof, subject to the approval of the  
263 commission; provided, that such regulations shall become  
264 effective without such approval upon the failure of the  
265 commission to take action thereon within thirty days after  
266 such regulations have been submitted to them by the chief of  
267 police. The chief of police in any such district shall be in  
268 immediate control of all district property used by the depart-  
269 ment, and of the police officers, whom he shall assign to their  
270 respective duties and who shall obey his orders.

271 *Section 99K.* The chief and other police officers of all  
272 regional police districts shall have, throughout their respec-  
273 tive districts, unless a different meaning is clearly apparent  
274 from the language or context, all the powers, duties, immu-  
275 nities and privileges conferred by the General Laws on chiefs  
276 and police officers of the towns.

277 *Section 99L.* In towns using official ballots at town elec-  
278 tions, revocation of the provisions of the regional police  
279 district law shall be by vote in answer to a question placed on  
280 the official ballot at an annual town election as hereinafter  
281 provided, and in towns not using official ballots at town  
282 elections such revocation shall be by vote at an annual town  
283 meeting. Upon the filing, with the clerk of any town using  
284 official ballots at town elections, of a petition signed either by  
285 the board of selectmen or by not less than five per cent of the  
286 total number of registered voters thereof, requesting that the  
287 question of revoking acceptance of the provisions of this law  
288 be placed upon the official ballot, the clerk shall place such  
289 question on the official ballot for the next town election  
290 occurring more than thirty days after the filing of such  
291 petition. The question to be voted on shall be:—"Shall the  
292 acceptance by the town of the provisions of sections ninety-  
293 nine B to ninety-nine L, inclusive, of chapter forty-one of the  
294 General Laws which provided for the establishment of a  
295 regional police district, together with the town (towns) of  
296 \_\_\_\_\_, be revoked?"

297 If such revocation is favored by a majority of the voters  
298 voting thereon, the acceptance of this law by such town shall  
299 be revoked and this law shall become null and void in said  
300 town beginning one year after such vote.

301 Whenever a town revokes acceptance of this law and  
302 withdraws from a regional police district said town shall  
303 remain liable for its share of any obligation of the district  
304 incurred while said town was a member of said district.

305 Whenever a town revokes acceptance of this law and  
306 withdraws from a regional police district and thereby breaks  
307 the contiguousness required by section ninety-nine C, the  
308 remaining towns shall continue to form a district notwith-  
309 standing the absence of contiguousness.



Committee on Education and the Labor Force

Subcommittee on Higher Education

Report of the Committee on Education and the Labor Force, Subcommittee on Higher Education, on the Committee's Report on the Higher Education Act of 1965, H. Rept. No. 1000, 90th Congress, 2d Session, 1968.

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1. Title I of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, provides for the establishment of a National Endowment for the Humanities and a National Endowment for the Arts.
2. Title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, provides for the establishment of a National Endowment for the Arts and a National Endowment for the Humanities.
3. Title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, provides for the establishment of a National Endowment for the Arts and a National Endowment for the Humanities.
4. Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, provides for the establishment of a National Endowment for the Arts and a National Endowment for the Humanities.
5. Title V of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, provides for the establishment of a National Endowment for the Arts and a National Endowment for the Humanities.
6. Title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, provides for the establishment of a National Endowment for the Arts and a National Endowment for the Humanities.
7. Title VII of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, provides for the establishment of a National Endowment for the Arts and a National Endowment for the Humanities.
8. Title VIII of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, provides for the establishment of a National Endowment for the Arts and a National Endowment for the Humanities.
9. Title IX of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, provides for the establishment of a National Endowment for the Arts and a National Endowment for the Humanities.
10. Title X of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, provides for the establishment of a National Endowment for the Arts and a National Endowment for the Humanities.

