

HOUSE No. 634

By Mr. Shattuck of Boston, petition of Edward F. Mullen and others for legislation to change the laws relating to the school committee of the city of Boston. Cities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Six.

AN ACT MAKING CHANGES IN THE LAWS RELATIVE TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

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. Chapter four hundred and eighty-nine
2 of the acts of nineteen hundred and fourteen is hereby
3 amended by striking out section one, as amended,
4 and inserting in place thereof the following section:—
5 *Section 1.* The school committee of the city of
6 Boston, in the year nineteen hundred and forty-two,
7 and in each sixth year thereafter, shall elect a super-
8 intendent of schools, who shall hold office for the
9 term of six years from the first day of September in
10 said year. The board of superintendents, as consti-
11 tuted on December thirty-first, nineteen hundred and
12 forty-six, shall continue to exist with the same pow-
13 ers and duties except as otherwise provided by this
14 act. In each year, beginning with the year nineteen
15 hundred and forty-seven, the school committee shall,

16 on the nomination of the superintendent of schools,
17 elect one assistant superintendent, to serve for the
18 term of six years from the first day of September in
19 the year of his election. If a vacancy shall occur in
20 the office of superintendent, the school committee
21 shall fill such vacancy for the unexpired term, and if
22 a vacancy shall occur in the office of assistant super-
23 intendent the school committee, on the nomination
24 of the superintendent of schools, shall fill such vac-
25 ancy for the unexpired term. The superintendent
26 shall be the executive officer of the school committee
27 in all matters pertaining to the powers and duties of
28 the committee, with power to nominate to the com-
29 mittee, for election or appointment by the committee,
30 all other officials and employees of the committee,
31 except the secretary of the school committee. The
32 school committee shall fix the compensation of the
33 superintendent and assistant superintendents and may
34 remove them, or any of them, for cause.

35 The superintendent of schools shall assign to each
36 assistant superintendent such duties as he may see
37 fit, except the review of eligibility lists prepared by
38 the board of examiners.

39 The superintendent and assistant superintendents
40 and the business manager shall constitute a board, to
41 be known as the board of superintendents. The su-
42 perintendent shall, when present, preside at the meet-
43 ings of said board. Said board shall have no execu-
44 tive or administrative powers, but shall act as an
45 advisory board to the superintendent, and, when di-
46 rected by the superintendent, as a trial board for
47 employees of the school committee. No member of
48 the city council or of the school committee shall hold
49 the office of superintendent or assistant superintend-

50 ent, and no member of the city council shall be a
51 member of the school committee.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter three hundred and eighteen
2 of the acts of nineteen hundred and six is hereby
3 amended by striking out section one, as amended by
4 chapter one hundred and forty of the acts of nineteen
5 hundred and twenty-six and by chapter two hundred
6 and thirty-one of the acts of nineteen hundred and
7 thirty-two, and inserting in place thereof the follow-
8 ing section:—

9 *Section 1.* The school committee of the city of
10 Boston shall choose a secretary, not of their own
11 number, who shall be recording secretary of the school
12 committee and the board of superintendents and shall
13 perform such other duties as the committee shall pre-
14 scribe, and who shall hold office until removed by the
15 committee for cause.

16 Except as provided in section three of this act, said
17 committee shall choose, upon the nomination of the
18 superintendent of schools, a business manager, who
19 shall hold office until removed by the committee for
20 cause. Said committee may also choose, upon the
21 nomination of the superintendent of schools, and may
22 for cause remove, an acting business manager who
23 shall serve only during the time that the business
24 manager is absent or otherwise unable to act, and he
25 shall during such time exercise all the powers and per-
26 form all the duties of said business manager. The
27 committee may also choose, upon the nomination of
28 the superintendent of schools, and remove such other
29 subordinate officers not specifically provided for by
30 law as they may deem expedient. The business man
31 ager shall in writing approve and transmit to the

32 auditor of said city all vouchers, pay rolls and other
33 documents calling for the expenditure of money, to-
34 gether with summarized requisitions on said auditor,
35 approved by the committee or by any authorized
36 member thereof, and requesting said auditor to place
37 said vouchers, pay rolls and other documents on his
38 draft for payment by the treasurer of said city.

1 SECTION 3. The business manager of the school
2 committee of the city of Boston in office on the effec-
3 tive date of this act shall continue to have and exer-
4 cise all powers and duties conferred or imposed upon
5 said officer, and nothing in this act shall, except as
6 specifically provided, be deemed to affect in any man-
7 ner the powers, duties, privileges and obligations of
8 said business manager or of any officer or employee
9 in his office upon said effective date.