

# HOUSE . . . . No. 979

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By Mr. O'Neill of Cambridge, petition of the Massachusetts Recreation Committee and another for legislation to provide for the establishment of the Massachusetts recreation board. State Administration.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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### AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MASSACHUSETTS RECREATION BOARD.

*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 6 of the General Laws, as  
2 most recently amended in section 17 by section 1  
3 of chapter 393 of the acts of 1939, is hereby further  
4 amended by striking out said section 17 and inserting  
5 in place thereof the following:—

6 *Section 17.* The armory commission, the art com-  
7 mission, the commission on administration and finance,  
8 the commissioner of state aid and pensions, the com-  
9 missioners on uniform state laws, the public bequest  
10 commission, the state ballot law commission, the  
11 board of trustees of the Soldiers' Home in Massachu-  
12 setts, the milk regulation board, the alcoholic beverages  
13 commission, the state planning board, the trustees of  
14 the state library, the state racing commission, the

15 Greylock reservation commission, the Massachusetts  
16 aeronautics commission and the Massachusetts recrea-  
17 tion board shall serve under the governor and council,  
18 and shall be subject to such supervision as the gov-  
19 ernor and council deem necessary or proper.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter 6 is hereby further  
2 amended by inserting after section 52, inserted by  
3 section 2 of chapter 475 of the acts of 1935, under  
4 the heading Massachusetts recreation board, the  
5 three following new sections:—

6 *Section 53.* There shall be established a board, to  
7 be known as the Massachusetts recreation board, in  
8 sections fifty-three to fifty-five called the board. The  
9 board shall consist of the chairman of the state  
10 planning board, the commissioner of the metropolitan  
11 district commission, the commissioner of education,  
12 the commissioner of conservation, or representatives  
13 delegated in writing, and five citizens of the common-  
14 wealth to be appointed by the governor, with the  
15 advice and consent of the governor's council, one of  
16 whom shall be designated by the governor as chair-  
17 man. Of the appointive members originally appointed  
18 hereunder, one shall be appointed for a term of one  
19 year, one for two years, one for three years, one for  
20 four years, and one for five years. Each appointive  
21 member of the board shall serve until the qualification  
22 of his successor, who shall be appointed in like man-  
23 ner, for the term of five years. Any vacancy shall be  
24 filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the  
25 same manner as the original appointment. The board  
26 shall meet upon call by the chairman or upon written  
27 request of three board members.

28 *Section 54.* It shall be the purpose of the board to  
29 provide information services on non-profit recreation  
30 to those branches of municipal government and private  
31 organizations that are engaged in meeting the recrea-  
32 tional needs of the citizens of the commonwealth, to  
33 the end that the full use of recreational facilities within  
34 the commonwealth may be encouraged, and that the  
35 board may seek to co-ordinate the efforts of the non-  
36 profit public and private organizations in so far as  
37 their efforts relate to the providing of the recreational  
38 needs of the citizens of the commonwealth.

39 It shall be the function and duty of the board:

40 (a) To seek to co-ordinate, strengthen and stimu-  
41 late the efforts of public and private agencies in so far  
42 as they are concerned with meeting the recreational  
43 needs of the citizens of the commonwealth through  
44 non-profit recreational programs.

45 (b) To assist, advise, confer and co-operate with  
46 those branches of municipal government, and private  
47 organizations, that are engaged in meeting the recrea-  
48 tional needs in the counties, cities, towns and areas  
49 of the commonwealth where non-profit recreation  
50 programs are provided.

51 (c) To organize a state-wide advisory committee  
52 on community recreation designed to aid the board in  
53 its duties.

54 (d) To submit annually a comprehensive report of  
55 its activities to the governor.

56 *Section 55.* The board shall be provided with suit-  
57 able offices in the commonwealth and may expend for  
58 office furniture and furnishings, stationery, printing,  
59 incidental expenses and other expenses necessary or  
60 reasonable in connection with its duties, such sum as

61 may be appropriated therefor. The board shall  
62 appoint an executive secretary whose salary and period  
63 of service shall be fixed by the board. The board may  
64 employ such other persons as may be necessary to  
65 carry on efficiently the purpose of the board. The  
66 members of the board shall serve without compensa-  
67 tion; but they shall be reimbursed for necessary  
68 traveling and other expenses and disbursements in-  
69 curred or expended in the performance of their official  
70 duties.