

SENATE No. 512

To accompany the petition of Bay State Lodge 129, American Federation of the Physically Handicapped Inc., by Mary Krasnogor, for legislation to establish an advisory council on affairs of the handicapped. Public Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AFFAIRS OF THE HANDICAPPED.

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 741 of the acts of 1951 is hereby amended
2 by inserting after section 1 the following section:—

3 *Section 1A.* There shall be in the department of
4 public health, but not subject to its control, an ad-
5 visory council.

6 The advisory council on affairs of the handicapped
7 shall consist of nine members who shall be named by
8 the governor, three of whom shall be representatives
9 of employers, three as representatives of bona fide
10 labor organizations having state-wide or national mem-
11 bership, and three who are themselves physically
12 handicapped from bona fide organizations of the
13 physically handicapped.

14 The secretary of the state department of labor
15 shall be ex officio chairman of said advisory council.

16 The terms of the members shall be for three years
17 from the dates of their respective appointments.

18 Five members of the advisory council shall consti-
19 tute a quorum. Each member of the advisory council
20 shall be paid traveling expenses and other necessary

21 expenses and per diem compensation at the rate of
22 fifteen dollars per day for each day of actual service.
23 The advisory council shall meet not less than twice
24 yearly or oftener on the call of the chairman.
25 The advisory council on affairs of the handicapped
26 shall have the power, and its duties shall be, to act in
27 an advisory capacity to all agencies of the state gov-
28 ernment dealing with the problems of the physically
29 handicapped, including the state board of vocational
30 rehabilitation, the state employment service, and the
31 state council of the blind, and any other agency having
32 a substantial part of the handicapped program, with
33 a view of co-ordinating and improving these services,
34 so as to render better service to the handicapped and
35 to effectuate as far as possible greater economy in the
36 operation of these state services.