

# SENATE . . . . No. 75

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To accompany the petition of William P. McDermott and others, selectmen, that provision be made for the appointment of a finance committee for the town of Mansfield and to define its powers and duties. Towns.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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An Act providing for the Appointment of a Finance Committee for the Town of Mansfield and defining its Powers and Duties.

*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 five hundred and eighty-six  
2 of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty is  
3 hereby amended by inserting after section three the  
4 following heading and new section: —

5 FINANCE COMMITTEE.

6 *Section 3A.* The selectmen shall appoint a fi-  
7 nance committee, consisting of five suitably quali-  
8 fied residents of the town, who shall be designated  
9 in their initial appointments to serve as follows: —  
10 one for the term of one year; two for the term of  
11 two years, and two for the term of three years, from  
12 the respective dates of their appointments and until  
13 the qualification of their respective successors. Upon

14 the expiration of the term of office of a member of  
15 said committee, his successor shall be appointed by  
16 the selectmen for a term of three years from said  
17 date of expiration. The selectmen may remove, for  
18 cause, any member of said committee. Any vacancy  
19 occurring in the membership of said committee shall  
20 be filled by the selectmen for the unexpired term.  
21 The members of said committee shall receive no  
22 salary for the duties of said office; and shall be in-  
23 eligible, either by appointment or by election, to any  
24 other town office. Said members shall be sworn to  
25 a faithful performance of their duties by the chair-  
26 man of the selectmen or by any person authorized  
27 to administer oaths. The chairman of said commit-  
28 tee shall be designated by the selectmen.

1 SECTION 2. Section three of said chapter five  
2 hundred and eighty-six is hereby amended by strik-  
3 ing out the last sentence.

1 SECTION 3. Section four of said chapter five hun-  
2 dred and eighty-six is hereby amended by striking  
3 out, in the second line, the word "selectmen" and  
4 inserting in place thereof the words:—finance com-  
5 mittee,— so as to read as follows:—*Section 4.* On  
6 or before the thirty-first day of December of each  
7 year, the town manager shall submit to the finance  
8 committee a careful, detailed estimate in writing of  
9 the probable expenditures of the town government  
10 for the ensuing fiscal year, stating the amount re-  
11 quired to meet the interest and maturing bonds and  
12 notes or other outstanding indebtedness of the town,  
13 and showing specifically the amount necessary to be  
14 provided for each fund and department. He shall

15 also submit at the same time an estimate in writing  
16 of the amount of income from all sources of revenue,  
17 exclusive of taxes upon property, and of the prob-  
18 able amount required to be levied and raised by tax-  
19 ation to defray all expenses and liabilities of the  
20 town. For the purpose of enabling the town man-  
21 ager to make up the annual estimate of expendi-  
22 tures, all boards, officers, and committees of the town  
23 shall, upon his written request, furnish all informa-  
24 tion in their possession and submit to him in writ-  
25 ing a detailed estimate of the appropriations  
26 required for the efficient and proper conduct of their  
27 respective departments during the next fiscal year.

1 SECTION 4. Section five of said chapter five hun-  
2 dred and eighty-six is hereby amended by striking  
3 out, in the third, fifth and twelfth lines, respectively,  
4 the word "selectmen" and inserting in place  
5 thereof, in each instance, the words: — finance com-  
6 mittee,—and by striking out the last sentence, —  
7 so as to read as follows: — *Section 5.* All articles  
8 in the warrants for the annual and special town  
9 meetings requiring the appropriation of money shall  
10 be considered by the finance committee, who shall re-  
11 port thereon in writing to the town in said meetings,  
12 with their recommendations. The finance commit-  
13 tee shall make a report in writing to the annual  
14 town meeting, which shall be published as a part of  
15 the annual town report, making such recommenda-  
16 tions regarding the finances of the town and action  
17 thereon as they deem proper.

18 The heading preceding said section five is hereby  
19 amended to read: — *Annual Report of the Finance*  
20 *Committee.*

1 SECTION 5. This act shall be submitted for ac-  
2 ceptance to the voters of said town of Mansfield at  
3 its next annual town meeting and shall take full  
4 effect upon its acceptance by a majority of the  
5 voters voting on the question; but, for the purpose  
6 of such submission, it shall take effect upon its  
7 passage.