

HOUSE No. 1492

By Mr. Hagan of Somerville, petition of James E. Hagan for legislation to regulate the making and awarding of certain contracts in the city of Somerville. Cities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act regulating the Making and Awarding of Certain
Contracts by the City of Somerville.

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 two hundred and forty of the
2 acts of eighteen hundred and ninety-nine is hereby
3 amended by inserting after section forty-six the two
4 following new sections:—

5 *Section 46A.* No contract for construction work or
6 for the purchase of apparatus, supplies or materials,
7 whether for repairs or original construction, the esti-
8 mated cost of which amounts to five hundred dollars
9 or more, except in cases of special emergency involv-
10 ing the health or safety of the people or their property,
11 shall be awarded by the city unless proposals for the
12 same have been invited by advertisements in at least
13 one newspaper published in the city once a week for
14 at least two consecutive weeks, the last publication

15 to be at least one week before the time specified for the
16 opening of said proposals. Such advertisements shall
17 state the time and place where plans and specifications
18 of proposed work or supplies may be had and the time
19 and place for opening the proposals in answer to said
20 advertisements, and shall reserve to the city the right
21 to reject any or all of such proposals. All such pro-
22 posals shall be opened in public. No bill or contract
23 shall be split or divided for the purpose of evading
24 any provision of this chapter.

25 *Section 46B.* All contracts made by any depart-
26 ment, board or commission of the city where the
27 amount involved is five hundred dollars or more shall
28 be in writing, and no such contract shall be deemed to
29 have been made or executed until the approval of the
30 mayor and of the department or board making the
31 contract is affixed thereto. Any contract made as
32 aforesaid may be required to be accompanied by a
33 bond with sureties satisfactory to the board or official
34 having the matter in charge, or by a deposit of money,
35 certified check or other security for the faithful per-
36 formance thereof, and such bonds or other securities
37 shall be deposited with the city treasurer until the
38 contract has been carried out in all respects; and no
39 such contract shall be altered except by a written
40 agreement of the contractor, the sureties on his bond,
41 and the officer, department or board making the con-
42 tract, with the approval of the mayor affixed thereto.

1 SECTION 2. Section twenty-six of said chapter two
2 hundred and forty is hereby amended by striking out
3 the last sentence.

1 SECTION 3. Said chapter two hundred and forty is

2 hereby further amended by striking out section forty-
3 three and inserting in place thereof the following:—

4 *Section 43.* The heads of the department men-
5 tioned in this act shall, subject to the provisions of
6 sections forty-six A and forty-six B, make all pur-
7 chases for their respective departments.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its
2 passage.

