

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1364

---

---

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

---

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 21, 1933.

The committee on Cities, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 340) of Russell D. Chase for legislation relative to the membership, powers and duties of the department of public welfare of the city of Springfield, report the accompanying bill (House, No. 1364).

For the committee,

TYCHO M. PETERSEN.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

---

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

---

An Act relative to the Board of Public Welfare of the  
City of Springfield.

*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. Section eight of chapter ninety-four  
2 of the acts of eighteen hundred and fifty-two is  
3 hereby amended by striking out, in the third and  
4 fourth lines of the second paragraph, the words  
5 “three persons to be overseers of the poor”,— so  
6 that said paragraph will read as follows:— The city  
7 council shall, annually, as soon after their organiza-  
8 tion as may be convenient, elect by joint ballot, in  
9 convention, three assessors, a collector of taxes, and  
10 a chief engineer and as many assistants not exceed-  
11 ing twelve as they may by vote determine, and fix  
12 their compensations, and the compensations of the  
13 city clerk, city treasurer, and school committee.  
14 They shall also, in such manner as they shall de-  
15 termine by any by-law, appoint, or elect, all other  
16 subordinate officers not herein otherwise directed for  
17 the ensuing year, and define their duties and fix their  
18 compensations in cases where the same are not de-  
19 fined and fixed by the laws of the commonwealth.  
20 All sittings of the mayor and aldermen, and of the

21 common council, shall be public, when they are not  
22 engaged in executive business.

1 SECTION 2. Section eleven of said chapter ninety-  
2 four is hereby amended by striking out the first para-  
3 graph.

1 SECTION 3. Chapter one hundred and twenty-six  
2 of the acts of eighteen hundred seventy-three is hereby  
3 amended by striking out section three and inserting in  
4 place thereof the following:—

5 *Section 3.* There shall be a board of public welfare  
6 consisting of five citizens of the city of Springfield, one  
7 of whom shall annually, within sixty days after the  
8 organization of the city council, be appointed by the  
9 mayor, with the approval of the city council by con-  
10 current vote, for five years from the first day of April  
11 next following. No person shall be appointed a mem-  
12 ber of said board unless he shall have been a resident  
13 of said city for at least three years next prior to his  
14 appointment, and no member of the city council or  
15 person who holds any political office for which he re-  
16 ceives compensation shall be a member of said board.  
17 The mayor may, with the approval of the city council  
18 by concurrent vote, remove for cause any member of  
19 said board. Vacancies by reason of resignation, re-  
20 moval from the city, removal from office, membership  
21 in the city council or holding of political office for which  
22 compensation is received shall be filled for the un-  
23 expired term by the mayor, with the approval of the  
24 city council by concurrent vote. Said board shall have  
25 all the rights and powers and perform all the duties  
26 conferred and imposed upon it by law or ordinance.  
27 Said board may make rules for the government of its

28 procedure, and shall choose one of its members to be  
29 chairman for such term as it may prescribe.

1 SECTION 4. Chapter ninety-seven of the acts of  
2 eighteen hundred seventy-eight is hereby repealed.

1 SECTION 5. The present members of the board of  
2 public welfare of the city of Springfield shall continue  
3 to hold office until the expiration of their respective  
4 terms of office, and the mayor shall, within two months  
5 from the effective date of this act, with the approval  
6 of the city council by concurrent vote, appoint the two  
7 additional members of said board provided for under  
8 section three of this act, one of whom shall be ap-  
9 pointed for four years and one for five years, from  
10 April first in the current year.

1 SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon its  
2 passage.