

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1660

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 24, 1937.

The committee on Labor and Industries, to whom was referred the fifth report of the Commission on Interstate Compacts Affecting Labor and Industries (including members of the General Court) established to recommend a policy to be pursued in co-operation with other states with reference to uniform wages, hours of labor and conditions and standards of employment (House, No. 1601), report (in part) the accompanying bill (House, No. 1660).

For the committee,

ENRICO CAPPUCCI.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act Establishing a Commission on Interstate Co-operation as Successor to the Commission on Interstate Compacts Affecting Labor and Industries and defining its Powers and Duties.

1    *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would  
2 tend to defeat its purpose, therefore it is hereby  
3 declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the  
4 immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*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 nine of the General Laws is  
2 hereby amended by adding at the end thereof, under  
3 the heading, COMMISSION ON INTERSTATE CO-OPERA-  
4 TION, the four following new sections:—

5    *Section 21.* There shall be in the department of  
6 the state secretary, but in no way subject to his  
7 control, a commission on interstate co-operation, in  
8 this and the following sections called the commis-  
9 sion. Such commission shall be in all respects the  
10 successor of the commission on interstate compacts  
11 affecting labor and industries established by chapter  
12 forty-four of the resolves of nineteen hundred and  
13 thirty-three as affected by chapter twenty-five of  
14 the resolves of nineteen hundred and thirty-four and  
15 chapter three hundred and fifteen of the acts of

16 nineteen hundred and thirty-five. The commission  
17 shall consist of nine legislative members, of whom  
18 three shall be members of the senate designated by  
19 the president thereof and six shall be members of  
20 the house of representatives designated by the  
21 speaker thereof, one of the commissioners on uni-  
22 form state laws designated by said commissioners,  
23 the chairman or a member of the state planning  
24 board designated by the governor, and four mem-  
25 bers, who may be state officials, appointed by the  
26 governor. Members appointed by the governor  
27 shall serve at his pleasure. Members of the senate  
28 or house of representatives designated as members  
29 of the commission shall serve for a term of four  
30 years, unless they shall cease to be members of  
31 said senate or house of representatives before the  
32 expiration of such term. Any vacancy shall be  
33 filled by appointment or designation for the re-  
34 mainder of the unexpired term, in the same manner  
35 as an original appointment or designation. The  
36 chairman of the commission shall be elected by  
37 the commission. The members of the commission  
38 shall serve without compensation but shall be paid  
39 their necessary expenses incurred in the performance  
40 of their duties. The commission may employ a sec-  
41 retary and such other assistants, including technical  
42 experts, as may be required in the performance of  
43 its duties.

44 *Section 22.* The commission may establish such  
45 committees and advisory boards as appear desirable,  
46 to conduct conferences and formulate proposals con-  
47 cerning subjects of intergovernmental co-operation.  
48 Subject to the approval of the commission, the mem-  
49 bers of every such committee and advisory board

50 shall be appointed by the chairman of the commis-  
51 sion. Whenever requested by the commission, the  
52 head of any state department or authority shall  
53 nominate a qualified official of such department to  
54 serve as a member of a committee or board, or to  
55 give such other advice and assistance as the com-  
56 mission may desire. Private citizens may also be  
57 appointed as members of such committees or boards,  
58 but at least one member of the commission shall be  
59 appointed as a member of every such committee and  
60 board. The commission may make such rules as it  
61 considers appropriate to govern the membership and  
62 proceedings of any committee or board established  
63 as aforesaid.

64 *Section 23.* It shall be a primary function of the  
65 commission to further the participation of the com-  
66 monwealth as a member of the council of state  
67 governments, both regionally and nationally, to con-  
68 fer with officials of other states and of the federal  
69 government, to formulate proposals for co-operation  
70 between this state and other states, and with the  
71 federal government, and to organize and maintain  
72 facilities for accomplishing these purposes. The  
73 commission may delegate not more than five of its  
74 members to attend any interstate conference that  
75 may be necessary in the conduct of its negotiations.  
76 The commission shall give particular attention to  
77 the establishment of fair and reasonable standards  
78 for labor and industry, including minimum wages,  
79 maximum hours of labor, conditions of employment  
80 of women and minors and other conditions and  
81 standards of employment, and shall also consider  
82 such questions as taxation, crime prevention, regu-  
83 lation of water resources and sewerage, regional

84 planning, and such other subjects as may from  
85 time to time be referred to it by the governor or  
86 the general court. The members of the senate and  
87 house designated as members of the commission shall,  
88 with such additions, if any, as their respective  
89 branches of the general court shall determine, con-  
90 stitute standing committees on interstate co-opera-  
91 tion. The chairman and members of these com-  
92 mittees shall be appointed in the same manner as  
93 the chairman and members of other standing com-  
94 mittees of the two branches. The president of the  
95 senate and the speaker of the house of representa-  
96 tives may serve as members of said standing com-  
97 mittees.

98 *Section 24.* The commission shall report to the  
99 general court with its recommendations for legisla-  
100 tion, if any, during the month of December in each  
101 year, and at other times when the status of its  
102 negotiations may make such report desirable.

1 SECTION 2. The existence of the commission on  
2 interstate compacts affecting labor and industries  
3 shall terminate on the appointment of the members  
4 of the commission on interstate co-operation. Mem-  
5 bers of the senate and house of representatives now  
6 serving as members of the commission on interstate  
7 compacts affecting labor and industries shall con-  
8 tinue to serve on the commission established by  
9 this act for a term of four years from the effective  
10 date hereof, unless they shall cease to be members  
11 of said senate or house of representatives before the  
12 expiration of such term, and in that case their suc-  
13 cessors shall be appointed as provided in section  
14 twenty-one of chapter nine of the General Laws.

1 SECTION 3. The commission on interstate co-  
2 operation may expend in the current fiscal year  
3 such sums, not exceeding, in the aggregate,  
4 thousand dollars, as may be appropriated, in addi-  
5 tion to the unexpended balance of sums appropriated  
6 for the expenses of the commission on interstate  
7 compacts affecting labor and industries. A part of  
8 said appropriation, not exceeding                    dollars,  
9 may be expended by the commission as contribu-  
10 tions to the council of state governments and similar  
11 affiliated organizations, representing the participa-  
12 tion of the commonwealth with other states in  
13 maintaining said council's regional and central sec-  
14 retariats and other governmental services, and also  
15 to meet expenses incurred jointly with similar com-  
16 missions of other states in conducting authorized  
17 negotiations.



