
By Mr. Della Chiesa of Quincy, petition of Amelio A. Della Chiesa that the city of Quincy be authorized to establish the office of comptroller. Cities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER IN THE CITY OF QUINCY.

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. There shall be in the city of Quincy a comp-
2 troller who shall be elected by the city council and who shall
3 have, in addition to the powers and duties conferred and im-
4 posed upon city auditors, the powers and duties prescribed
5 in section two hereof. The person so elected shall be a citi-
6 zen of the United States and shall have had not less than
7 three years full-time experience in accounting. The comp-
8 troller shall devote his entire time to the performance of his
9 duties and the supervision of the employees of the depart-
10 ment. He shall be elected for the term of three years and
11 until the qualification of his successor. He may be removed
12 by the city council for cause, and the vacancy filled by elec-
13 tion for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same
14 manner as in the case of an original election. His salary or
15 compensation shall be such as the city council may from
16 time to time vote, subject to appropriation. He may ap-
17 point and employ such assistance and employees as may be
18 necessary for the proper conduct of his office. Nothing herein
19 contained shall be construed as affecting the civil service
20 rights or status of employees in the offices of the city auditor,
21 central accounting and pay roll, at the time of the acceptance

22 of this act as provided in section five. The position or office
23 of comptroller shall not be subject to the laws and rules per-
24 taining to civil service.

1 SECTION 2. The comptroller shall have, in addition to the
2 powers and duties conferred and imposed upon the city audi-
3 tor, the following powers and duties: —

4 (a) He shall compile all the financial records of the city.

5 (b) He shall exercise supervision over the central account-
6 ing sections, the pay roll section and the budget section, as
7 divisions of his department.

8 (c) He shall prescribe the methods of installation and exer-
9 cise supervision of all accounting records of the several officers,
10 boards and commissions of the city; provided, however, that
11 any change in the system of accounts shall first be discussed
12 with the city council and the officers, boards and commissions
13 affected, and shall meet the requirements of the state director
14 of accounts.

15 (d) He shall draw all warrants upon the treasurer for the
16 payment of bills, drafts and orders chargeable to the several
17 appropriations.

18 (e) Prior to submitting any warrant to the treasurer, he
19 shall examine and approve as not being fraudulent, unlawful
20 or excessive, all bills, drafts and orders covered thereby; and
21 in connection with any such examination he may make in-
22 spection as to the quality, quantity and condition of any ma-
23 terials, supplies or equipment delivered to or received by any
24 officer, board or commission of the city and may investigate
25 as to the service or labor performed for or furnished to any
26 such officer, board or commission and so covered. If upon
27 examination it appears to the comptroller that any such bill,
28 draft or order is fraudulent, unlawful or excessive, he shall
29 immediately report such fact to the city council.

30 (f) He shall cause to be assembled a monthly report, show-
31 ing the fiscal conditions of the city.

32 (g) All contracts, purchase orders or warrants which create
33 liability in the city shall be countersigned by the comptroller
34 and allocated against the proper appropriation.

35 (h) Any amendments, cancellations, modifications or change

36 orders of any contract or purchase order shall be in writing,
37 countersigned and allocated by the comptroller as if such
38 amendments, cancellations, modifications or change orders
39 were the original contract.

1 SECTION 3. If the office of comptroller is vacant because
2 of disability or absence, and he is unable to perform his duties,
3 the mayor of the city, without confirmation by the city coun-
4 cil, any provision of the city charter to the contrary notwith-
5 standing, shall appoint a temporary comptroller to hold such
6 office and exercise the powers and perform the duties thereof
7 until another is duly elected and has qualified according to
8 law, or the comptroller who was disabled or absent resumes
9 his duties.

1 SECTION 4. Upon the acceptance of this act, the city audi-
2 tor and director of finance shall cease to serve as such, and the
3 office of city auditor and director of finance shall thereupon be
4 abolished.

1 SECTION 5. This act shall take full effect upon its accept-
2 ance by the city of Quincy by a majority vote of the city coun-
3 cil members present and voting thereon at a regular council
4 meeting.

30 orders of any contract or purchase order shall be in writing.
 31 countermanded and abated by the contractor as if such
 32 amendments, cancellations, modifications or change orders
 33 were the original contract.

34 Section 32. If the office of contractor is vacant because
 35 of disability or absence, and he is unable to perform the duties
 36 thereof of the city, without consent by the city council,
 37 all any provision of the city charter to the contrary notwithstanding,
 38 standing shall appoint a temporary contractor in his stead
 39 after and exercise the powers and perform the duties thereof
 40 until another is duly elected and his duties according to
 41 law, or the contractor who was disabled is able and resumes
 42 his duties.

43 Section 33. Upon the expiration of this act, the city shall
 44 for and duration of business shall when it expires and the
 45 date of city author and date of expiration shall be deemed
 46 to be abated.

47 Section 34. This act shall take full effect upon its passage
 48 and by the city of Chicago, in a majority vote of the city
 49 council, and shall be in full force and effect from and after
 50 its passage.

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