

By Mr. Hogan of Everett, petition of William F. Hogan for legislation to establish a board for the regulation of the storage of propane. Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BOARD FOR THE REGULATION OF THE STORAGE OF PROPANE.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this Act would tend to
2 defeat its purpose which is to make its provisions effective
3 forthwith, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency
4 law necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
5 safety.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 22 of the General Laws as most recently amended
2 by chapter 300, of the Acts of 1972, is hereby amended by
3 adding after section 10 a new section 10A as follows:

4 The commissioner shall appoint a board for the regulation of
5 the storage of propane consisting of the supervising district
6 engineering inspector of the division of inspection designated
7 by the commissioner as chairman, and four members appointed
8 by the commissioner, one of whom shall be a registered pro-
9 fessional mechanical engineer experienced in tank and pressure
10 vessel construction, one of whom shall be a registered pro-
11 fessional chemical or civil engineer experienced in the storage
12 of fluids and gases, one of whom shall be a member repre-
13 senting the users of tanks containing fluids and gases other
14 than water.

15 Upon the expiration of the term of office of an associate
16 member, his successor shall be appointed for a term of three
17 years, a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of a term of

18 an associate member shall be filled for the remainder of such
19 term in the same manner as the original appointment was
20 made. The board shall meet as often as any business shall
21 appear on its agenda but not less than once a month.

22 No member shall act as a member of the board, or vote as
23 such, in connection with any matter as to which his private
24 right, distinct from the public interest, is immediately con-
25 cerned.

26 A majority of said board, constituted as above provided,
27 may transact business, but a lesser number may adjourn from
28 time to time.

29 Each member of said board shall be paid fifty dollars for
30 each day while in the actual performance of his duties as such,
31 but not exceeding twelve hundred and fifty dollars in any fiscal
32 year, and shall also receive from the commonwealth all ex-
33 penses necessarily incurred by him in connection with his
34 official duties.

35 Such clerical, technical and other assistants as may be
36 required by the board shall be assigned to it by the com-
37 missioner.

38 The board shall formulate rules or adopt rules formulated by
39 recognized safety or engineering organizations, on or before
40 July first, nineteen hundred and seventy-three referenced from
41 the latest revised editions of the applicable American Society
42 of Mechanical Engineers, American National Standards In-
43 stitute, American Concrete Institute, National Fire Prevention
44 Association, American Petroleum Institute and American Gas
45 Association codes and American Society of Testing Materials
46 specifications. The board may from time to time thereafter
47 amend criteria, standards, rules and regulations that will
48 provide for the health and safety of the citizens of the com-
49 monwealth and which are consistent with federal laws. In the
50 event of a conflict between one or more of the codes, the
51 board shall resolve the conflict for each individual case and
52 permit such variances as they may deem appropriate to the
53 health and safety of the citizens of the commonwealth. The
54 board shall accept and adjudicate appeals from the decisions of
55 inspectors. The board shall have the authority to set fees for
56 licenses and permits for the storage of propane. The board shall

57 be empowered to investigate hazards, explosions and accidents
58 and to impound evidence of such accidents relating to the
59 storage of propane, to subpoena and swear witnesses, revoke or
60 suspend licenses or permits and conduct hearings from the
61 appeals of aggrieved parties in accordance with the adjudicatory
62 proceedings, Chapter 30A.

63 *Retroactivity:* Existing installations, plants, stores, equip-
64 ment, buildings and structures for the storage of propane which
65 are not in strict compliance with the terms of this statute may
66 be continued in use provided these do not constitute a distinct
67 hazard to life or to adjoining property. The above tanks shall
68 require an annual inspection. When a district engineering in-
69 spector deems that the continued use will constitute a distinct
70 hazard to life or adjoining property, he shall notify the owner
71 or user and specify the reason in writing.

72 Whoever violates any rules and regulations adopted under the
73 provisions of this section shall be punished by a fine of not less
74 than five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars
75 for each offense. The superior court sitting in equity on
76 petition of the board or any person authorized by the board
77 shall have jurisdiction to restrain such violations. Of the mem-
78 bers not from within the department, first appointed, one each
79 shall be appointed for a period of one year, two years and
80 three years.

81 The issuance of permits for the storage of propane either
82 above or below ground when in excess of one hundred gallons
83 capacity, shall be expressly vested in the Department of Public
84 Safety, Division of Inspection, Engineering Section, and in
85 accordance with the provisions of sections nine, thirteen and
86 thirty-seven of chapter one hundred forty-eight.

87 *Repeal of conflicting statutes:* All former statutes or parts
88 thereof conflicting with the provisions of this statute are
89 hereby repealed.

90 *Severability:* The Senate and House of Representatives in
91 General Court assembled hereby declare that should any section,
92 paragraph, sentence, or word of this statute be declared for any
93 reason to be invalid, it is the intent of the Senate and House of
94 Representatives that it would have passed all other portions of
95 this statute independent of the elimination herefrom of any such
96 portion as may be declared invalid.

The first part of the document discusses the general principles of the proposed system. It is intended to provide a comprehensive overview of the various components and their interactions. The system is designed to be flexible and adaptable to different environments and requirements.

The second part of the document details the specific implementation of the system. This includes a description of the hardware and software components, as well as the configuration and installation procedures. The goal is to ensure that the system can be deployed and maintained with minimal effort.

The third part of the document focuses on the performance and reliability of the system. It includes a series of tests and measurements that demonstrate the system's ability to handle high loads and maintain consistent performance over time. The results of these tests are presented in a clear and concise manner, allowing for easy comparison with other systems.

The fourth part of the document discusses the security and privacy of the system. It outlines the various security measures that have been implemented to protect the system from unauthorized access and data breaches. It also addresses the issue of data privacy and the steps that have been taken to ensure that user information is kept secure and confidential.

The fifth part of the document provides a summary of the key findings and conclusions of the study. It highlights the strengths and weaknesses of the system and offers recommendations for future improvements. The overall goal is to provide a clear and actionable roadmap for the development and deployment of the system.