

HOUSE No. 1163

By Mr. Gray of Springfield, petition of Thomas T. Gray and Richard T. Dolan for legislation to reorganize the Public Utilities Commission. State Administration.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty.

AN ACT REORGANIZING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION.

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 25 of the General Laws is hereby amended
2 by striking out section 2, as most recently amended by section 1
3 of chapter 606 of the acts of 1959, and inserting in place thereof
4 the following section: —

5 *Section 2.* The department shall be under the supervision and
6 control of a commission which shall consist of three members ap-
7 pointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the
8 council, one of whom shall be known as the commissioner of
9 public utilities and also the chairman of the commission and the
10 other two shall be known as associate commissioners of public
11 utilities. Not more than two of the three members shall be of
12 the same political party. Of the members first appointed, the
13 commissioner shall serve until the first day of January, nineteen
14 hundred and sixty-six, one associate commissioner shall serve
15 until the first day of January, nineteen hundred and sixty-four,
16 and one associate commissioner shall serve until the first day of
17 January, nineteen hundred and sixty-two. Upon the expiration
18 of the term of any member, his successor shall be appointed by
19 the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, for a
20 term of five years. The commissioner shall receive such salary,
21 not exceeding twelve thousand dollars, and each associate com-
22 missioner shall receive such salary, not exceeding ten thousand
23 dollars, as the governor and council shall determine.

1 SECTION 2. Section 4 of said chapter 25, as most recently
2 amended by section 2 of said chapter 606, is hereby further
3 amended by striking out the sixth sentence and inserting in
4 place thereof the following sentence:— In the hearing of all
5 matters other than those of formal or administrative character
6 coming before the commission, one or more commissioners shall
7 participate and in the decision of all such matters at least two
8 commissioners shall participate; provided that any such matter
9 may be heard, examined and investigated by an employee of the
10 department designated and assigned thereto by the chairman,
11 with the concurrence of at least one of the associate commis-
12 sioners.

1 SECTION 3. The terms of office of all members of the public
2 utilities commission as constituted prior to the effective date of
3 this act shall terminate on the said effective date.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect on the first day of
2 January, nineteen hundred and sixty-one.