

[Similar matter filed during past session —  
See Senate No. 1387 of 1973]

# SENATE . . . . . No. 389

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By Mr. Backman, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 389) of Jack H. Backman for legislation to increase the membership on housing authorities and providing for the election of four members by tenants of such authority. Urban Affairs.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT INCREASING THE MEMBERSHIP ON HOUSING AUTHORITIES  
AND PROVIDING FOR THE ELECTION OF FOUR MEMBERS BY TENANTS  
OF SUCH AUTHORITY.

*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 5 of chapter 121B of the General Laws,  
2 inserted by section 1 of chapter 751 of the Acts of 1969, is  
3 hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph and insert-  
4 ing in place thereof the following paragraph: —

5 Every housing and redevelopment authority shall be man-  
6 aged, controlled and governed by nine members, appointed or  
7 elected as provided in this section, of whom five shall constitute  
8 a quorum.

1 SECTION 2. Section 5 of said chapter 121B is hereby  
2 amended by striking out the second, third, fourth and fifth  
3 paragraphs, inserted by section 1 of chapter 751 of the Acts  
4 of 1969 and inserting in place thereof the following para-  
5 graph: —

6 In a city, four members of a housing authority shall be  
7 appointed by the mayor subject to confirmation by the city  
8 council, two elected annually by tenants of the housing au-  
9 thority and one by the department; provided, that of the  
10 members originally appointed, the member appointed by the  
11 department shall serve for the term of three years, and the  
12 other members shall be appointed to serve for the terms of

13 one, two, four and five years, respectively. In a town, four  
14 members shall be elected by the town, four elected annually  
15 by tenants of the housing authority, and one appointed by the  
16 department, provided, that of the members originally elected  
17 at an annual town meeting, the one receiving the highest num-  
18 ber of votes shall serve for five years, the one receiving the  
19 next highest number of votes, for four years, the one receiving  
20 the next highest number of votes, for two years, and the  
21 one receiving the next highest number of votes, for one year,  
22 and that the member originally appointed by the department  
23 shall serve for three years. Membership in a housing author-  
24 ity shall be restricted to residents of the city or town. There-  
25 after, as the term of a member of any such housing authority  
26 expires, his successor shall be appointed or elected, in the  
27 same manner and by the same body, for the term of five years.  
28 Vacancies, other than by reason of expiration of terms, shall  
29 be filled for the balance of the unexpired term, in the same  
30 manner and by the same body, except elected members in  
31 towns whose terms shall be filled in accordance with the pro-  
32 visions of section eleven of chapter forty-one of the General  
33 Laws, as amended. Every member, unless sooner removed,  
34 shall serve until the qualification of his successor. In a city,  
35 one of the members of a housing authority shall be a repre-  
36 sentative of organized labor. The city or town clerk shall be  
37 responsible for providing for the election by the tenants.