

By Mr. Lapointe of Chicopee, petition of Paul Guzzi (Secretary of the Commonwealth) and Francis C. Lapointe relative to establishing a suggestion awards board composed of the constitutional officers or their designees. State Administration.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SUGGESTION AWARDS BOARD COMPOSED OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS OR THEIR DESIGNEES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 31A of Chapter 7 of the General Laws, 1 as most recently amended by Chapter 584 of the Acts of 1969, is 2 hereby repealed.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 9 of the General Laws is hereby 2 amended by inserting after Section 29 thereof the following:—

3 *Section 30.* There shall be in the department of the state 4 secretary, but not subject to his control or supervision except as 5 herein provided, a suggestion awards board, to consist of the 6 governor, lieutenant governor, state secretary, state treasurer, 7 and receiver-general, attorney general, and state auditor, or their 8 designees. The chairman shall be elected by the members of the 9 board to serve for a one year term.

10 Said suggestion awards board shall meet at least 4 times per 11 year for the purpose of receiving and judging suggestions made by 12 employees of the commonwealth as to methods of improving 13 existing governmental procedures; installing new procedures for 14 the betterment of state service; increasing the efficiency of the 15 several state departments, boards, commissions, or institutions 16 operating under any state department, division, board, or 17 commission; reducing the cost of state government; or improving 18 the service rendered to the public by any department, division,

19 board, commission or institution. From time to time the
20 suggestion awards board shall award public recognition and,
21 subject to appropriation, shall make cash awards to those
22 employees whose suggestions have been determined by the board
23 to have resulted in demonstrable cost savings, improved
24 efficiency, or improved service to the public. The board shall,
25 subject to the approval of the State Secretary, establish rules
26 relative to the receiving and judging of such suggestions, the
27 amount of the awards to be given, and the qualifications of
28 employees for participation in the suggestion awards program.
29 The board may, subject to appropriation, expend sums for
30 publicity, clerical and other services and expenses necessary to
31 carry out the purposes of this section.