

By Mr. Freeman of Chelmsford, petition of Bruce N. Freeman for legislation to establish a state employees' awards program for the executive and judicial branches of state government. Public Service.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Two.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A STATE EMPLOYEES' AWARD PROGRAM.

*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 30 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding  
2 after section 64, added by section 20 of chapter 920 of the acts of  
3 1977, the following three sections: —

4 *Section 65.* The departmental awards program set forth in sec-  
5 tion sixty-five to sixty seven, inclusive, shall be carried out under  
6 such regulations and instructions as may be issued by the secretary  
7 of administration and finance which shall annually report the  
8 results of the program, with related recommendations, to the  
9 governor for transmittal to the general court.

10 *Section 66.* As used in sections sixty-five to sixty-seven, inclu-  
11 sive, the term "department" means any state employees.

12 *Section 67. (a)* The head of each department, subject to appro-  
13 priation, is hereby authorized to pay cash awards to, and to incur  
14 necessary expenses for the honorary recognition of employees of  
15 the commonwealth who by their suggestions, inventions, superior  
16 accomplishments, or other improvement of governmental opera-  
17 tions or who perform special acts or services in the public interest in  
18 connection with or related to their official employment.

19 *(b)* Awards under this section may be paid notwithstanding the  
20 death or separation from the service of the employee concerned;  
21 provided, that the suggestions, inventions, superior accomplish-  
22 ments, or other personal efforts, or special acts or services in the  
23 public interest forming the basis for the awards are made or  
24 rendered while the officer or employee is in the employ of the  
25 commonwealth.

26 (c) A cash award under this section shall be in addition to the  
27 regular compensation of the recipient and the acceptance of such  
28 cash award shall constitute an agreement that the use by the  
29 commonwealth of an idea, method or device for which the award is  
30 made shall not form the basis of a further claim of any nature upon  
31 the commonwealth by the employee, his heirs, or assigns.

32 (d) Awards to employees and expenses for the honorary recog-  
33 nition of employees may be paid from the funds or appropriations  
34 available to the activity primarily benefiting or may be paid from  
35 the several funds or appropriations of the various activities benefit-  
36 ing as may be determined by the head of the department concerned  
37 for awards under subsection (a).

38 (e) A monetary award granted under sections sixty-five to sixty-  
39 seven, inclusive, shall be a sum equal to five per cent of the savings  
40 to the commonwealth, but shall in no event exceed five thousand  
41 dollars per annum for each employee.