

By Mr. Flaherty of Boston, petition of the National Association of Government Employees relative to granting municipal police officers and fire fighters the right to strike if employers decline to submit contract disputes to binding arbitration. Public Service.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

AN ACT GIVING MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS THE RIGHT TO STRIKE IF THE EMPLOYER DECLINES TO SUBMIT A CONTRACT DISPUTE TO BINDING ARBITRATION.

*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 9A of Chapter 1078 of the Acts of 1973 is hereby  
2 amended by striking out in said section paragraph (a) thereof and  
3 inserting in place thereof the following new paragraph (a): —

4 (a) No public employee or employee organization shall engage  
5 in a strike, and no public employee or employee organization shall  
6 induce, encourage or condone any strike, work stoppage, slow-  
7 down or withholding of services by such public employees pro-  
8 vided, however, that if an employee organization duly recognized  
9 as representing the firefighters or police officers of a city, town or  
10 district is engaged in an impasse which has continued for thirty  
11 days after the publication of the fact-finder's report pursuant to  
12 section nine of chapter one hundred and fifty E, and if said em-  
13 ployee organization requests the employer to submit the impasse  
14 to binding arbitration, and if the employer refuses to submit the  
15 impasse to binding arbitration then said employee organization  
16 and the members thereof shall have the right to strike.

