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By Mr. Olver, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 208) of John W. Olver, William E. Moriarty, William P. Nagle, Jr., James G. Collins and other members of the General Court for legislation to authorize counties to establish an energy resources commission. Counties.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

### AN ACT AUTHORIZING COUNTIES TO ESTABLISH AN ENERGY RESOURCES 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 Chapter 40 of the General Laws is hereby amended by in-  
2 serting after section 8 I the following section:—

3 *Section 8J.* Any county may establish an energy resources  
4 commission, hereinafter called the commission, for the pro-  
5 motion and development of the energy resources of said coun-  
6 ty. Such commission shall: —

7 (1) develop and administer programs relating to energy  
8 conservation, nonrenewable energy supply and resource de-  
9 velopment, recycling, energy information, emergency heating  
10 assistance, and energy emergencies; (2) advise, assist, and  
11 cooperate with state, regional, and federal agencies in devel-  
12 oping appropriate programs and policies relating to energy  
13 planning and regulation in the commonwealth including as-  
14 sistance and advice in the preparation of loan or grant ap-  
15 plications with respect to energy programs for local agencies;  
16 (3) develop local energy data and information management  
17 capabilities to aid energy planning and decision-making; (4)  
18 promote the development of sound local energy education pro-  
19 grams; (5) with the approval of the county commissioners,  
20 apply for, receive, expend, represent and act on behalf of the  
21 county in connection with federal grants, grant programs or  
22 reimbursements, or private grants, keep accounts, records, per-  
23 sonal data, enter into contracts, and adjust claims; (6) accept

24 gifts, grants, bequests, and devises, whether real or personal,  
25 from any source, whether public or private, for the purpose  
26 of assisting the commission in the discharge of its duties; (7)  
27 subject to appropriation, acquire real or personal property;  
28 (8) promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out  
29 their statutory responsibilities; (9) seek to coordinate the ac-  
30 tivities of governmental or unofficial bodies organized for  
31 similar purposes, and may advertise, prepare, print and dis-  
32 tribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which in its  
33 judgment it deems necessary for its work and it shall keep  
34 an index of all energy resources within such county with the  
35 objective of obtaining information pertinent to proper utiliza-  
36 tion of such resources; (10) it shall keep accurate records of  
37 its meetings and actions and shall file an annual report. The  
38 commission may, subject to appropriation, appoint such clerks  
39 and other employees as it may from time to time require. The  
40 commission shall consist of not less than six nor more than  
41 eighteen members appointed by the county commissioners.

42 When a commission is established, the initial terms of the  
43 members shall be for one, two or three years, and so arranged  
44 that the terms of approximately one-third of the members  
45 will expire each year, and their successors shall be appointed  
46 for terms of three years each.

47 Any member of a commission so appointed may, after a  
48 public hearing, if requested, be removed for cause by appoint-  
49 ing authority. A vacancy occurring otherwise than by ex-  
50 piration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term in  
51 the same manner as an original appointment.