

SENATE No. 1510

By Mr. Locke, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1510) of David H. Locke for legislation to create the executive ethics commission. State Administration.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT CREATING THE EXECUTIVE ETHICS 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 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by in-
2 serting after section 183 the following new section: —

3 *Section 184.* There shall be an Executive Ethics Commission
4 hereinafter called the commission, consisting of the following
5 persons: the president of the Massachusetts Bar Association,
6 the Chairman of the Democratic and Republican State Com-
7 mittees, the president of the League of Women Voters, the
8 president of Common Cause, or their designee, all of whom
9 shall serve ex officio, the president of a college or university
10 situated in the commonwealth to be designated by the gov-
11 ernor for a term of three years, and three other persons to
12 be appointed by the governor for a term of three years repre-
13 senting the public, none of whom shall hold elective or ap-
14 pointive office or be in the employ of the commonwealth.

15 Upon the expiration of the term of any appointive member
16 his successor shall be appointed in a like manner for a term
17 of three years.

18 The commission shall elect its own chairman from its
19 membership to serve a term of one year. Members shall re-
20 ceive no compensation for their services on the commission
21 but shall receive their expenses necessarily incurred in the
22 performance of official duties. The commission may report
23 from time to time to the general court and shall make an
24 annual report in writing to the general court by filing a copy
25 of the same with the clerk of the senate on or before the

26 second Wednesday of November in each year.

27 Meetings may be called by the chairman or upon the re-
28 quest of a majority of the members of the chairman.

29 The commission may conduct such inquiries and investiga-
30 tions as it deems necessary and consistent with its authority.
31 The committee shall have the power to summon witnesses,
32 administer oaths, take testimony and compel the production
33 of papers, books, documents and other evidence in connection
34 with any authorized examination and review. It shall be the
35 duty of any officer or employee of any agency of the state as
36 defined in section 63 of chapter 3 of the General Laws to per-
37 mit access to and examination thereof upon the request of the
38 commission or its agent duly authorized in writing.

39 The commission may act upon sworn complaints in writing
40 or may act upon its own initiative, upon authorization by a
41 majority of the commission.

42 The commission may accept gifts or grants and may expend
43 the same without appropriation and may employ clerical and
44 other assistance subject to appropriation. No employee of the
45 commission shall be subject to the provisions of chapter thirty-
46 one or section nine A of chapter thirty. The commission shall
47 have all the powers which apply to special commissions pro-
48 vided in section 2A of chapter four, unless otherwise provided
49 in this section.