

HOUSE No. 909.

Bill accompanying the petition of John A. Coulthurst for legislation relative to the appointment, management and control of a board of police for the city of Boston. Metropolitan Affairs. February 3.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Four.

AN ACT

To establish a Board of Police for the City of Boston.

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 1. The mayor of the city of Boston shall
2 appoint without confirmation by the board of aldermen,
3 from the two principal political parties, three citizens of
4 Boston, who shall have been residents therein ten years
5 immediately preceding the date of their appointment,
6 who shall constitute a board of police for said city, and
7 who shall be sworn before entering upon the duties of
8 their office.

9 One member of said board shall be designated by the
10 mayor as chairman, and two shall constitute a quorum.
11 Their terms of office shall commence on the first Monday

12 of February, nineteen hundred and three, and shall be
13 so arranged and designated at the time of the appoint-
14 ment that the term of one member shall expire on the
15 first Monday of February, nineteen hundred and four,
16 one on the first Monday of February, nineteen hundred
17 and five, and one on the first Monday of February, nine-
18 teen hundred and six. The full term of office after these
19 dates shall be three years, and all vacancies occurring
20 after the passage of this act shall be filled by the mayor.
21 The members of said board may be removed by the
22 mayor for such cause as he shall deem sufficient and shall
23 express in the order of removal. The board of police
24 shall appoint a clerk, who shall be sworn, who shall
25 keep a record of all proceedings, issue all notices, and
26 attest all such papers and orders as said board shall
27 direct, whose term of office shall be three years, but who
28 may be removed by said board for such cause as it shall
29 deem sufficient and shall express in its order of removal.

1 SECTION 2. The board of police shall have authority
2 to appoint and establish and organize the police of said
3 city of Boston and make all needful rules and regula-
4 tions for its efficiency. All the powers now vested in
5 the board of police in said city of Boston by the statutes
6 of the Commonwealth, or by the ordinances, by-laws,
7 rules and regulations of said city, are hereby conferred
8 upon and vested in said board of police hereby created.

1 SECTION 3. The members of the Boston police force
2 in office when the said board of police are first appointed
3 shall continue to hold their several offices until removed
4 or placed on the retired list by said board; and the
5 present rules and regulations for the government of the
6 police shall continue in force until otherwise ordered by
7 said board of police. All police officers appointed by

8 said board of police hereby created shall have and exer-
9 cise within the limits of said city all the common law and
10 statutory powers of constables, except the service of
11 civil process, and shall have all the powers given to the
12 police as watchmen by the statutes of the Common
13 wealth, the laws relating to said city or by any ordinances
14 thereof.

1 SECTION 4. The annual salary of the chairman of
2 said board of police shall be five thousand dollars, that
3 of the other members four thousand five hundred dollars,
4 of the clerk three thousand dollars.

5 Said officers shall not engage in any other business.

1 SECTION 5. The board of police shall make a detailed
2 report of its doings quarterly to the mayor of said city,
3 and shall make a report of its doings to the city council
4 whenever requested by it. The records of said board of
5 police shall at all times be open to the inspection of the
6 governor of the Commonwealth, the mayor of said city
7 or to such persons as may be designated by them.

1 SECTION 6. This act shall be submitted for the ac-
2 ceptance of the voters of said city at the annual municipal
3 election in the current year, and if accepted by a majority
4 of the votes cast at such election the provisions relating
5 to the appointment of said officers shall take effect on
6 such acceptance, and this act shall take full effect on the
7 first Monday of February, nineteen hundred and five.

1 SECTION 7. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent
2 herewith are hereby repealed.

