

SENATE No. 33.

To accompany the petition of A. M. Taft for legislation to require municipalities to advertise for bids for all contracts for public improvements to the amount of five hundred dollars or more. Cities.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Six.

AN ACT

To require Cities and Towns publicly to advertise for Bids for all Contracts for Public Improvements to the Amount of Five Hundred Dollars or more.

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. Hereafter all work, labor and ma-
2 terials required or to be purchased by any city or
3 incorporated town in this Commonwealth, or by
4 any department thereof, whether such city or town
5 be incorporated under a special charter or not, shall
6 be purchased by authority of and pursuant to spe-
7 cific regulations to be prescribed by ordinance or
8 by-law of such city or town, which regulations shall

9 provide for full, free and open competitive bidding
10 for such work, labor and materials, and for the
11 award of the contract therefor to the lowest respon-
12 sible bidder. Such regulations shall also provide
13 for a public notice to be printed in one or more
14 newspapers of general circulation in such city or
15 town, if any are published therein, calling for writ-
16 ten and sealed proposals for such work, labor and
17 materials. In no case shall such ordinance or reso-
18 lution refer by name to any patented or otherwise
19 exclusively designated or protected article, nor to
20 the name of any manufacturer thereof. No mem-
21 ber or officer of any department of the government
22 of such city or town shall be in any way, directly or
23 indirectly, in his personal capacity, interested in
24 such contracts or awards, except officially as the
25 representative of such city or town, nor shall any
26 such official furnish, directly or indirectly, any of the
27 said work, labor or materials. The provisions of
28 this act shall not apply to any contract where the
29 total value of the work, labor and materials to be
30 furnished shall amount, in any one case, to less
31 than five hundred dollars.

1 SECTION 2. Whoever violates the provisions of
2 this act shall be punished by a fine not exceeding
3 one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment not ex-
4 ceeding three months.