

SENATE No. 16

To accompany the petition of Elmer C. Potter that the Board of Education and the Commission on Industrial Education be consolidated. Education.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine.

AN ACT

To consolidate the Board of Education and the Commission on Industrial Education.

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. Section one of chapter thirty-nine of
2 the Revised Laws is hereby amended, so that the
3 same shall read as follows:—

4 *Section 1.* The board of education shall consist
5 of the governor and lieutenant-governor, ex officio,
6 and nine other persons, three of whom shall an-
7 nually in May be appointed by the governor, with
8 the advice and consent of the council, for terms
9 of three years. No member who has served for
10 six consecutive years upon the board shall be el-

11 ible for appointment within one year of the ex-
12 piration of such term of service.

1 SECTION 2. Section two of chapter thirty-nine of
2 the Revised Laws as amended by chapter two
3 hundred and thirty-four of the acts of nineteen
4 hundred and four is hereby amended by inserting
5 after the word " seven ", in line three, the
6 words: — and seventeen; by striking out the word
7 " twenty ", in line _____, and inserting in place
8 thereof the word: — thirty, and by striking out the
9 word " three ", in line _____, and inserting in
10 place thereof the word: — four, — so that the same
11 shall read as follows: —

12 *Section 2.* The board may appoint a secretary,
13 who, under its direction, shall make the abstract
14 of school returns required by the provisions of
15 sections seven and seventeen, shall collect and dis-
16 tribute information respecting the condition and
17 efficiency of the public schools and other means of
18 popular education, and the best system of studies
19 and the best method of instruction. The board may
20 also employ such assistance or agents, and may
21 provide such clerical and messenger service as may
22 be necessary: *provided*, that the total expense for
23 salaries incurred under this section shall not ex-
24 ceed thirty thousand dollars annually, and that the
25 allowance for travelling expenses of employees un-
26 der the direction of the board shall not exceed four
27 thousand dollars annually. Such agents shall not
28 be pecuniarily interested, directly or indirectly, in
29 the publication or sale of any text book, school
30 book or article of school supply used in the public
31 schools of this commonwealth.

1 SECTION 3. Section six of chapter thirty-nine of
2 the Revised Laws is hereby amended so that the
3 same shall read as follows:—

4 *Section 6.* The board shall prescribe the form of
5 census required by the provisions of section three
6 of chapter forty-three, of registers to be kept in
7 the public schools and of returns to be made by
8 school committees; shall annually, on or before the
9 third Wednesday of January, make to the general
10 court a report containing a printed abstract of said
11 returns, like returns of the schools in charge of
12 the board and a detailed report of all the doings of
13 the board, together with a detailed report of all
14 receipts and expenditures, with observations upon
15 the condition and efficiency of the system of public
16 education and suggestions in regard to the most
17 practicable means of improving and extending it.
18 The records of the doings of the board shall be
19 open to public inspection.

1 SECTION 4. Section seven of chapter thirty-nine
2 of the Revised Laws is hereby amended by insert-
3 ing after the word “ shall ”, in the first line, the
4 words:— keep such records of the schools in charge
5 of the board as are required of school committees.
6 He shall,— and by striking out the words “ five
7 hundred ”, in the last line, and inserting in place
8 thereof the words:— one thousand,— so that the
9 section shall read as follows:—

10 *Section 7.* The secretary shall keep such records
11 of the schools in charge of the board as are required
12 of school committees. He shall suggest improve-
13 ments in the present system of public schools to the
14 board and to the general court; shall visit, as often

15 as his other duties will permit, different parts of
16 the commonwealth for the purpose of arousing and
17 guiding public sentiment in relation to the practical
18 interests of education; shall collect in his office such
19 school books, apparatus, maps and charts as can
20 be obtained without expense to the commonwealth;
21 shall receive and arrange in his office the reports
22 and returns of the school committees; and shall
23 receive, preserve or distribute the state documents
24 relative to the public school system. He may also
25 publish for general distribution such parts of the
26 annual report of the board and such other matters
27 as he may consider best adapted to promote the
28 interests of public school education, if the expense
29 thereof is paid out of the appropriation for the inci-
30 dental and contingent expenses of the board and
31 does not in any one year exceed one thousand
32 dollars.

1 SECTION 5. Section ten of chapter thirty-nine of
2 the Revised Laws is hereby amended so that the
3 same shall read as follows:—

4 *Section 10.* The board shall perform the duties
5 assigned to the commission on industrial education
6 by chapter five hundred and five of the acts of nine-
7 teen hundred and six and chapter five hundred
8 seventy-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and
9 eight. It shall have the general management of the
10 state normal schools and the boarding houses con-
11 nected therewith, and money appropriated for their
12 maintenance may be expended under its direction.
13 The accounts of the boarding houses shall be kept
14 under the direction of the auditor of accounts.

1 SECTION 6. The terms of the present members of

2 the board of education and of the commission on
3 industrial education shall expire June first, nine-
4 teen hundred and nine, and thereafter all the duties
5 assigned by law to the commission on industrial
6 education shall be performed by the board of edu-
7 cation, as constituted by the terms of this act, and
8 said commission shall cease to exist. The governor,
9 with the advice and consent of the council, shall
10 during the month of May, nineteen hundred and
11 nine, appoint the members of the board as provided
12 for in this act, three for terms of one year each,
13 three for terms of two years each, and three for
14 terms of three years each. At least three members
15 of the present commission on industrial education
16 shall be appointed to the board.

1 SECTION 7. All acts and portions of acts incon-
2 sistent herewith are hereby repealed.

1 SECTION 8. This act, so far as it provides for
2 the appointment of the members of the board of
3 education during the month of May, nineteen hun-
4 dred and nine, shall take effect upon its passage.
5 Otherwise it shall take effect the first day of June,
6 nineteen hundred and nine.

