

HOUSE No. 2514

Substituted by the House for House, No. 2415.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fourteen.

AN ACT

To authorize the Cities of Waltham, Springfield and Medford to establish Boards of Recreation.

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 cities of Waltham, Springfield and
2 Medford may establish boards of recreation composed of
3 five persons.

1 SECTION 2. Said boards of recreation shall consist of
2 a member of the park commission, or of the department
3 having control of the parks, and a member of the school
4 committee, and three other citizens; the members shall
5 be appointed by the mayor to serve one for one year,
6 two for two years, and two for three years; their succes-
7 sors to be appointed for three years or shall be selected
8 by such other method as said cities may prescribe.

1 SECTION 3. The members of said boards of recreation
2 shall serve without compensation, and shall elect a chair-
3 man from their own number, a secretary, who shall be
4 its executive officer, and other necessary officers, to serve
5 for one year or until their successors are elected. Said
6 boards of recreation shall have power to adopt rules of
7 procedure, fix the pay of their employees and prescribe
8 regulations for the conduct of all business within their
9 jurisdiction. A majority of the membership of the board
10 shall constitute a quorum. Said cities shall appropriate
11 annually the funds necessary for the maintenance and
12 operation of said departments, and from time to time
13 such additional funds as may be necessary to carry out
14 the purposes of this act.

1 SECTION 4. Said boards of recreation shall have power
2 to organize, manage and supervise the various play-
3 grounds, recreation centers, municipal gymnasiums,
4 municipal floating baths, bathing grounds, bath houses,
5 and other facilities for recreation of which they may be
6 given charge, as provided in sections five, six, seven and
7 eight; and to plan and recommend by regular reports
8 to the city government, and after appropriate action by
9 ordinance to create and develop an adequate and complete
10 system of playgrounds and recreation centers and related
11 activities and to employ supervisors, instructors and
12 other necessary subordinates.

1 SECTION 5. Said cities may, upon the creation of the
2 boards of recreation, from time to time thereafter transfer
3 to the charge of said boards of recreation any parks, park-
4 ways, grounds, playgrounds, buildings or other proper-
5 ties adaptable for recreation purposes, or portions of
6 such parks, parkways, grounds, buildings or other prop-
7 erties.

1 SECTION 6. Said boards of recreation may, on their
2 own initiative, take charge of any grounds, with buildings
3 thereon erected, the use of which is offered to them tem-
4 porarily by individuals or corporations, for the purpose
5 of using such grounds for public playgrounds and recrea-
6 tion activities, and may co-operate with and promote by
7 advice, suggestion and otherwise, such voluntary or
8 amateur organizations for recreation, entertainment or
9 mutual improvement as meet their approval.

1 SECTION 7. Said boards of recreation may assume the
2 charge of school playgrounds and of school buildings, or
3 any part thereof used for recreation centers, if so re-
4 quested by resolution of the school committee.

1 SECTION 8. By authorization of the board of alder-
2 men said boards of recreation shall have charge of pro-
3 visions for winter sports on streets or bodies of water,
4 and for the observance of holidays, may disburse funds
5 appropriated therefor, and may have supervision of dance
6 halls, moving picture shows and other forms of com-
7 mercial recreation, and make recommendations to the
8 licensing authority or authorities.

1 SECTION 9. This act shall not limit or affect in any
2 way the authorities heretofore conferred by law upon
3 any commission to lay out and improve any public park
4 in said cities now under the control of such commission,
5 nor shall it restrict in any way the full discretion of any
6 commission in the execution of any trust by deed or will.
7 Any such commission may delegate to said boards of
8 recreation, and said boards of recreation may accept legal
9 charge of any grounds or buildings under the control of
10 such commission, to be used for playgrounds and recrea-
11 tion purposes.

1 SECTION 10. Said boards of recreation shall annually
2 make a report of their proceedings during the preceding
3 year to the mayor, with such recommendations for the
4 development of playgrounds and recreation facilities,
5 including additions thereto, as it may deem advisable.

1 SECTION 11. This act shall take effect when accepted
2 by the governments of said cities.