

By Mr. Saltonstall, a petition of William L. Saltonstall for legislation to establish the small business development commission. Commerce and Labor.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT 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 SECTION 1. Chapter 23B of the General Laws is hereby
 2 amended by inserting after section 10 the following two sec-
 3 tions: —

4 *Section 11.* There shall be in the department of commu-
 5 nity affairs, but in no way subject to its control, the Massa-
 6 chusetts small business commission, hereafter in this section
 7 and in section twelve called the commission. The commission
 8 shall consist of the commissioner of community affairs, ex
 9 officio, and four persons to be appointed by the governor. The
 10 governor shall designate one of his appointees as chairman
 11 of said commission. Upon the expiration of the term of any
 12 appointive member his successor shall be appointed for a term
 13 of four years. A person appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve
 14 for the remainder of the term for which he was appointed.

15 Three members of the commission shall constitute a quorum,
 16 and the affirmative vote of three members shall be necessary
 17 for any action by the commission.

18 The members of the commission shall receive no compensa-
 19 tion for their services, but each member shall be reimbursed
 20 for necessary expenses incurred by him in the performance of
 21 his official duties.

22 *Section 12.* The commission shall aid small businesses in
 23 obtaining financial and managerial assistance and advice from
 24 public and private sources, including programs established

25 by the federal government. The commission shall provide as-
26 sistance to any small business which has been, or seeks to be,
27 relocated as a result of a taking by eminent domain, and
28 shall coordinate the efforts of local, state and federal pro-
29 grams.

30 The commission may establish local service centers and
31 local advisory committees, especially in low-income areas,
32 establish training programs to develop management and other
33 business skills, provide counselling services for individuals
34 engaged or about to engage in small business, whether loan
35 recipients or not, and may, on behalf of the commonwealth,
36 enter into agreements with any federal or state agency.

37 It may employ an executive director, who shall not be sub-
38 ject to the provisions of chapter thirty-one, and such other
39 assistants, including professional and business advisors, as may
40 from time to time be necessary.

41 The commission may on behalf of the commonwealth accept
42 gifts, grants, loans of funds or property, and financial or
43 other aid from any federal or state agency or private fund
44 or foundation. All such funds shall be credited on the books
45 of the commonwealth to a special fund to be known as the
46 Massachusetts Small Business Commission Fund, and said
47 Fund, subject to appropriation, shall be used only to carry
48 out the purposes of section eleven and this section.

1 SECTION 2. In making his initial appointments to the Massa-
2 chusetts Small Business Commission, established by section
3 eleven of chapter twenty-three B of the General Laws, enacted
4 by section one of this act, the governor shall appoint the mem-
5 bers for terms of one, two, three and four years, respectively,
6 as he may designate. Upon the expiration of the term of any
7 such member his successor shall be appointed for the term
8 provided in subsection eleven.