

By Mr. Morrissey of Quincy, petition of Michael W. Morrissey relative to providing for the orderly administration of county government. Counties.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Seven.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ORDERLY ADMINISTRATION OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

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 1 of Chapter 64D of the General Laws
2 is hereby amended by adding the words "and fourteen cents"
3 following the words one dollar in line 12 and by adding the words
4 "and fourteen cents" following the words one dollar in line 13.

1 SECTION 2. Section 10 of Chapter 64D of the General Laws
2 is hereby amended by striking out in lines 1 and 2 the words be
3 retained by the commonwealth and inserting in place thereof the
4 words "on or before the last day of each calendar quarter be
5 distributed by the state treasurer upon the certification of the
6 commissioner of revenue to the county in which such taxes were
7 paid."

1 SECTION 3. Section twenty-three of chapter five hundred and
2 forty-six of the acts of nineteen hundred and sixty-nine is hereby
3 repealed.

1 SECTION 4. Subsection (b) of section 28B of Chapter 35 of
2 the General Laws is hereby amended following paragraph (iii) in
3 line 44 by adding the following paragraph (iv): —

4 (iv) In every county other than Suffolk ten percent of the
5 revenue generated pursuant to Chapter 64D, section 1 shall be
6 expended for the office of register of deeds; and thirty-five percent

7 of the revenue generated thereby shall be expended for the
8 administration of county jails and houses of correction; and fifty-
9 five percent of the revenue generated thereby shall, except in
10 Nantucket County, be expended and/or allocated by a majority
11 vote of the county advisory board, such fifty-five percent of
12 revenue to be referred to in this section as “advisory board dis-
13 cretionary funds.” In Nantucket County, fifty-five percent of the
14 revenue generated thereby shall be expended by a majority vote
15 of the selectmen of Nantucket. Expenditures dedicated for the
16 office of the register of deeds and for the administration of county
17 jails and houses of correction pursuant to this section shall in each
18 fiscal year be in addition to the amount appropriated for such
19 operations during the fiscal year nineteen hundred and eighty-six.

1 SECTION 5. Section 28B of Chapter 35 of the General Laws
2 is hereby further amended by adding the following subsection (j)
3 following subsection (i) in line 145: —

4 (j) For the purpose of establishing a county land bank fund,
5 every county, other than Suffolk and Nantucket, pursuant to a
6 majority vote of the advisory board may in any year fund an
7 amount not to exceed ten percent of the advisory board
8 discretionary funds as defined in subsection (b) (iv). The aggregate
9 amount in the land bank fund at any time shall not exceed one
10 percent of the equalized valuation of that county as defined in
11 the most recent biennial report of the commissioner of revenue
12 under section 10C of chapter 58. Any interest shall be added to
13 and become part of the fund.

14 Appropriations to the county land bank fund shall be paid over
15 to the county treasurer, who shall maintain a separate account
16 of same. Such funds may be expended by the county
17 commissioners with the approval of the advisory board for the
18 following purposes. The county may purchase and acquire fee
19 simple interest and lesser interest in lands, including conservation
20 restrictions, development rights, agricultural preservation
21 restrictions, aquifer preservation restrictions, easements and rights
22 of way. Such funds may be expended for recreation purposes
23 which are deemed to be passive recreational purposes not harmful
24 to the environment by the municipal conservation commission in
25 the city or town in which the said land is located, and for

26 acquisition of agricultural, horticultural and forest lands held
27 under chapter sixty-one and sixty-one A. Such funds may also
28 be expended for acquisition of woods or forest land, fields, edge,
29 wetlands, watershed lands, aquifer recharge areas, greenbelts
30 lands, riparian lands, farm land and wildlife habitat for
31 conservation and passive recreation use.

32 In every county other than Suffolk and Nantucket, the county
33 treasurer shall be the custodian of the fund and may deposit the
34 proceeds in national banks or invest the proceeds by deposit in
35 savings banks, cooperative banks or trust companies organized
36 under the laws of the commonwealth, or invest the same in such
37 securities as are legal for the investment of funds of savings banks
38 under the laws of the commonwealth or in federal savings and
39 loan associations situated in the commonwealth.

1 SECTION 6. This act shall take effect on January first,
2 nineteen hundred and eighty-six.

