

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 1378

By Mr. Dolan of Ipswich, petition of John F. Dolan for the establishment of a Massachusetts science and technology commission for the encouragement of scientific and technological research. Education.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Nine.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MASSACHUSETTS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION AND PRESCRIBING ITS AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS.

*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. Scientific and technological education and re-  
2 search are basic to the commonwealth's future and its eco-  
3 nomic growth. New and rapid advances in science and  
4 technology have produced significant and outstanding bene-  
5 fits to the people of the commonwealth, and it is essential and  
6 imperative that the commonwealth continue to maintain its  
7 leadership as a research and technological center. It is there-  
8 fore declared to be the policy of the commonwealth to  
9 encourage scientific and technological education, research,  
10 assistance and development in order to promote the general  
11 welfare of the commonwealth.

1 SECTION 2. There is hereby created a public commission to  
2 be known and hereafter called the Massachusetts science and  
3 technology commission.

1 SECTION 3. The purpose of the commission shall be to  
2 encourage and promote scientific and technological education  
3 in the commonwealth, and basic and applied scientific re-  
4 search, assistance and development in the commonwealth.

1 SECTION 4. The commission shall be administered and its  
2 powers exercised by a board of directors to consist of nine  
3 members to be appointed by the governor. All members shall  
4 be of full age, citizens of the United States and residents of  
5 the commonwealth, and shall be appointed for a term of four  
6 years each. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy shall be  
7 appointed for the unexpired term of the member whom they  
8 are to succeed. The governor shall appoint a chairman and  
9 vice chairman who shall serve as such at the pleasure of the  
10 governor. The board shall provide for the holding of regular  
11 and special meetings, and a majority shall constitute a  
12 quorum in order to conduct any official acts of said board.  
13 The board shall adopt by-laws for the commission and may  
14 appoint such officers and employees as it deems advisable and  
15 proper, and shall fix their compensation and prescribe their  
16 duties. Said directors shall receive no compensation for their  
17 services but shall be reimbursed for their expenses in the  
18 performance of their official duties under this act.

1 SECTION 5. In the furtherance of the purposes set forth in  
2 this act the commission shall have the following powers:—  
3 (a) To foster and support scientific and technological re-  
4 search, development, assistance and education in the com-  
5 monwealth, through contracts or other adequate and proper  
6 means, in cooperation with the federal government, the state  
7 government and the political subdivisions thereof, educa-  
8 tional institutions, non-profit organizations and institutions,  
9 business enterprise and other persons concerned with scien-  
10 tific and technological research, development, assistance and  
11 education in the commonwealth.

12 (b) To sponsor and conduct conferences and studies,  
13 collect and disseminate information, and issue periodic re-  
14 ports relating to any and all such projects within the com-  
15 monwealth.

16 (c) To maintain a register of scientific and technological  
17 personnel and facilities within the commonwealth.

18 (d) To receive, hold, invest and reinvest and use, on behalf  
19 of the commission and for any of its purposes, real property,  
20 personal property and moneys, or any interest therein, and  
21 the income therefrom, either absolutely or in trust. The board

22 without regard to any other limitations may acquire property  
23 or moneys for such purposes by the acceptance of gifts,  
24 grants, appropriations, bequests or devises from any source,  
25 including but not limited to the federal and state govern-  
26 ments and their agencies.

27 (e) To be sued or sue in the name of the commission,  
28 process in any action or proceeding may be served upon the  
29 attorney general of the commonwealth, acting as agent for  
30 the commission.

31 (f) To have and use a commission seal.

32 (g) To adopt rules and regulations, not inconsistent with  
33 the General Laws, governing any or all of the purposes of the  
34 commission.

1 SECTION 6. No obligation of the commission shall be a debt  
2 of the commonwealth, and the commission shall have no  
3 power to make its obligations payable out of any property or  
4 moneys except those of the commission.

1 SECTION 7. The commission is created and shall be oper-  
2 ated exclusively for public purposes and not for any pecuni-  
3 ary profit. No part of the earnings of the commission shall  
4 inure to the benefit of any private individual, and the  
5 commission shall not attempt to influence legislation other  
6 than to make general recommendations concerning the  
7 same.

1 SECTION 8. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general  
2 or special law or the provisions of any certificate of incorpo-  
3 ration, charter or other articles of organization, any corpora-  
4 tion, association, or person is hereby authorized to make  
5 contributions of any kind to the commission in the perfor-  
6 mance of its duties.

1 SECTION 9. The property, income and activities of the  
2 commission shall be exempt from all taxes and assessments,  
3 and the commission shall make an annual report to the  
4 governor and the general court not later than June the  
5 thirtieth of each year.

1 SECTION 10. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

- 22 without regard to the other conditions here set forth.
- 23 or change for such purposes by the acceptance of this
- 24 certificate of indebtedness, or if such certificate
- 25 is not so issued to the Federal and State govern-
- 26 ments on this certificate.
- 27 (e) If it is found on the part of the State
- 28 government or the Federal government that the certificate
- 29 is not so issued to the Federal and State govern-
- 30 ments on this certificate, the certificate shall be
- 31 void and the State and Federal governments shall have
- 32 no liability thereon, and the certificate shall be
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