

By Mr. Carney of Lynn, petition of William H. Hebert that local governmental units be authorized to contribute the full amount of a subsidiary or additional rate for group life and health insurance covering certain active and retired employees and their dependents. Insurance.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT A LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT MAY CONTRIBUTE THE FULL AMOUNT OF A SUBSIDIARY OR ADDITIONAL RATE FOR GROUP LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE COVERING CERTAIN ACTIVE AND RETIRED EMPLOYEES AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to  
2 defeat its purpose which is immediately to authorize certain  
3 political subdivisions of the commonwealth to pay the full  
4 amount of a subsidiary or additional rate which may be used  
5 to pay the increase in the premium required by public law 89-  
6 97 for supplementary medical insurance benefits commonly  
7 known as Medicare Part B of the Federal Health Insurance  
8 For The Aged Act, for active and retired employees of the  
9 political subdivision insured under Medicare and the political  
10 subdivision's Optional Medicare Extension health insurance  
11 coverage, therefore, it is hereby declared to be an emergency  
12 law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
13 convenience.

*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 32B of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by inserting after section 7 the following section:—  
3 *Section 7A.* A governmental unit which accepts the  
4 provisions of this section may, as a part of the total  
5 monthly cost of contracts of insurance authorized by sections  
6 three and eleven C, with contributions as required by section  
7 seven, make payment of a subsidiary or additional rate which

8 may be lower or higher than a premium determined by the  
9 governmental unit to be paid by the insured, the combination  
10 of which shall result in the governmental unit making pay-  
11 ment of more, but not less than, fifty per cent of the total  
12 monthly cost for such insurance.

13 (a) With respect to any period of insurance which is in  
14 effect for an active or retired employee and dependent, there  
15 shall be withheld from each payment of salary, wages, other  
16 compensation, pension or retirement allowance, subject to the  
17 provisions of section nine E, fifty per cent of a premium for  
18 the insurance of the employee and his dependents and the  
19 governmental unit shall contribute the remaining fifty per  
20 cent of such premium together with any subsidiary or addi-  
21 tional rate. The governmental unit shall also contribute fifty  
22 per cent of a premium together with any subsidiary or  
23 additional rate which may be required of an employee's  
24 dependent child who is nineteen years of age or over and  
25 mentally or physically incapable of earning his own living.

26 (b) If an active or retired employee is entitled to receive,  
27 during a calendar month salary, wages, other compensation,  
28 pension or retirement allowance, and the premium has not  
29 been withheld from said salary, wages, other compensation,  
30 pension or retirement allowance, he may continue his insur-  
31 ance in effect by paying directly to the governmental unit the  
32 premium which would otherwise have been deducted from his  
33 salary or pension and said governmental unit shall contribute  
34 the remaining fifty per cent of the premium together with  
35 any subsidiary or additional rate. If an employee is not  
36 entitled to receive salary, wages or other compensation for a  
37 calendar month, for purposes of this chapter, he shall be  
38 deemed to have been granted a leave of absence without pay,  
39 and he shall make payment for the entire cost of his  
40 insurance to the governmental unit as aforesaid, and there  
41 shall be no contribution by the governmental unit for such  
42 employee's insurance. If an employee is not entitled to  
43 receive salary, wages or other compensation for any calendar  
44 month, due to illness of such employee and not because of  
45 illness of his immediate family, for purposes of this section he  
46 shall be deemed to have been granted sick leave without pay,  
47 and subject to the rules and regulations of the appropriate



48 public authority, said employee shall make payment of fifty  
49 per cent of the premium for his insurance to the treasurer of  
50 the governmental unit, and such governmental unit shall  
51 contribute the remaining fifty per cent of such premium  
52 together with any subsidiary or additional rate.

53 (c) All amounts withheld from an employee's salary, wages  
54 or other compensation as provided in paragraph (a) of this  
55 section and all amounts paid by an employee as provided in  
56 paragraph (b) of this section and all amounts withheld from  
57 retired employees as retirement allowances under the provi-  
58 sions of section nineteen A of chapter thirty-two together  
59 with the contribution of the governmental unit as provided in  
60 paragraph (a) shall be paid by the treasurer of the govern-  
61 mental unit to the carrier or carriers entitled to the total  
62 premium and subsidiary or additional rate, if any.

63 (d) This section shall take effect in a county, city, town or  
64 district upon its acceptance in the following manner:—In a  
65 county by vote of the county commissioners; in a city having  
66 a Plan D or Plan E charter by majority vote of its city  
67 council; in any other city by vote of its city council,  
68 approved by the mayor, in a district, except as hereinafter  
69 provided, by vote of the registered voters of the district at a  
70 district meeting; in a regional school district by vote of the  
71 regional district school committee; in a veterans' services  
72 district by vote of the district board; in a welfare district by  
73 vote of the district welfare committee; in a health district  
74 established under section twenty-seven A of chapter one  
75 hundred and eleven by vote of the joint committee; and in a  
76 town by submission for acceptance to the registered voters in  
77 the form of the following question which shall be printed  
78 upon the official ballot to be used at an election:—"Shall the  
79 town, in addition to the payment of fifty per cent of a  
80 premium for contributory group life and health insurance for  
81 employees in the service of the town and their dependents,  
82 pay a subsidiary or additional rate"? Section seven shall not  
83 apply in any governmental unit which accepts the provisions  
84 of this section.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 32B of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by inserting after section 9D the following sec-  
3 tion:—

4 *Section 9E.* A county by vote of the county commissioners;  
5 a city having a Plan D or Plan E charter by majority vote of  
6 its city council; in any other city by vote of its city council,  
7 approved by the mayor; a district, except as hereinafter  
8 provided, by vote of the registered voters of the district at a  
9 district meeting; a regional school district by vote of the  
10 regional district school committee; a veterans' services dis-  
11 trict by vote of the district board; a welfare district by vote  
12 of the district welfare committee; a health district established  
13 under section twenty-seven A of chapter one hundred and  
14 eleven by vote of the joint committee, may provide that it  
15 will pay in addition to fifty per cent of a stated monthly  
16 premium as described in section seven A for contracts of  
17 insurance authorized by sections three and eleven C, a  
18 subsidiary or additional rate which may be lower or higher  
19 than the aforesaid premium and the remaining fifty per cent  
20 of said premium is to be paid by a retired employee under the  
21 provisions of the first sentence of section nine. A town may  
22 provide for such payment if a majority of the votes cast in  
23 answer to the following question which shall be printed on  
24 the official ballot to be used at an election in said town is in  
25 the affirmative:—"Shall the town, in addition to the pay-  
26 ment of fifty per cent of a premium for contributory group  
27 life and health insurance for employees retired from the  
28 service of the town, and their dependents, pay a subsidiary or  
29 additional rate"? Section nine A shall not apply in any  
30 governmental unit which accepts the provisions of this sec-  
31 tion.

1 SECTION 3. Section 9 of chapter 32B of the General Laws is  
2 hereby amended by striking out the first sentence thereof and  
3 inserting in place therefor the following new sentence:—The  
4 policy or policies of insurance shall provide that upon retire-  
5 ment of an employee, the policy or policies providing two  
6 thousand dollars of group life insurance and two thousand  
7 dollars of group accidental death and dismemberment insur-  
8 ance as set forth in section five, except the optional coverage  
9 referred to therein, shall be reduced to one thousand dollars  
10 of group life insurance and the retired employee shall make  
11 payment of the full premium cost subject to the provisions of



12 section nine A or nine E whichever may be applicable, of the  
13 average group premium as determined by the appropriate  
14 public authority for the group life insurance; and, the group  
15 general or blanket insurance providing hospital, surgical,  
16 medical and other health insurance as provided under sec-  
17 tions four and eleven C, as may be applicable, shall be  
18 continued and the retired employee shall pay the full pre-  
19 mium cost, subject to the provisions of section nine A or  
20 section nine E whichever may be applicable, of the average  
21 group premium as determined by the appropriate public  
22 authority for such hospital, surgical, medical and other health  
23 insurance.

1 SECTION 4. Section 3 of chapter 32B of the General Laws is  
2 hereby amended by striking out the eighth and ninth sen-  
3 tence thereof and inserting in place therefor the following two  
4 new sentences:—If a town or district accepts the provisions  
5 of this chapter as provided under section ten and as further  
6 provided under sections seven A and nine E but fails to  
7 appropriate the funds necessary to implement said provisions,  
8 the selectmen, in the case of a town, or the committee or  
9 district commissioners, in the case of a district, shall certify  
10 the cost to the town or district, as the case may be, in  
11 carrying out the provisions of this chapter to the board of  
12 assessors who shall include the amount so certified in the  
13 determination of the tax rate of that year. If a city accepts  
14 the provisions of this chapter as provided under section ten  
15 and as further provided under sections seven A and nine E  
16 the annual budget shall include sums necessary to imple-  
17 ment said provisions.

1 SECTION 5. Section 10 of chapter 32B of the General Laws  
2 is hereby amended by striking out section 10 as most recently  
3 amended by section 1 of chapter 373 of the acts of 1967, and  
4 inserting in place thereof the following section:—

5 *Section 10.* This chapter, except sections seven A, eight A,  
6 nine A, nine C, nine D, nine E, eleven A, eleven B and eleven  
7 D may be accepted in a county by vote of the county  
8 commissioners; in a city having a Plan D or Plan E charter  
9 by majority vote of its city council, in any other city by vote

10 of its city council, approved by the mayor; in a district,  
11 except as hereinafter provided, by vote of the registered  
12 voters of the district at a district meeting; in a regional  
13 school district by vote of the regional district school com-  
14 mittee; a veterans' services district by vote of the district  
15 board; in a welfare district by vote of the district welfare  
16 committee; in a health district established under section  
17 twenty-seven A of chapter one hundred and eleven by vote of  
18 the joint committee; and in a town by submission for  
19 acceptance to the registered voters in the form of the follow-  
20 ing question which shall be printed upon the official ballot to  
21 be used at an election—"Shall certain provisions of chapter  
22 thirty-two B of the General Laws, authorizing any county,  
23 city, town or district to provide a plan of contributory group  
24 life insurance, group accidental death and dismemberment  
25 insurance, and group general or blanket hospital, surgical,  
26 medical and other health insurance for certain persons in the  
27 service of such county, city, town or district and their  
28 dependents be accepted by this town"? If a majority of the  
29 voters voting on the question shall vote in the affirmative,  
30 this chapter, except sections seven A, eight A, nine A, nine C,  
31 nine D, nine E, eleven A, eleven B, and eleven D shall take  
32 effect in such town.



The Mr. Johnson of Geological position of Henry A. Johnson that  
 appointing authorities be required to keep on the written approval of board of  
 education granted to public employees. (H. R. 1333)

### The Commission of State Affairs

in the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixteen

The first paragraph of the act passed by the State of New York  
 in the year one thousand nine hundred and six

is amended by the Senate and House of Representatives in  
 the year one thousand nine hundred and six

The second paragraph of the act passed by the State of New York  
 in the year one thousand nine hundred and six  
 is amended by the Senate and House of Representatives in  
 the year one thousand nine hundred and six  
 by the addition of the following words, to-wit: "and the  
 State of New York"