

HOUSE No. 618.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Feb. 2, 1899.

[Introduced on leave by Mr. Ross of New Bedford. Cities.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-nine

AN ACT

To establish and maintain Free Employment Offices in the
Cities of the Commonwealth.

*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. There shall be established and maintained,
2 under the care and direction of the chief of the bureau
3 of statistics of labor, in every city of the Commonwealth
4 which shall accept the provisions of this act as herein-
5 after provided, employment offices, for the purpose of
6 bringing together those who seek labor and those who
7 desire employment.

1 SECTION 2. The chief of the bureau of statistics of
2 labor is hereby authorized and directed, whenever he

3 shall receive notice of the acceptance of the provisions
4 of this act by any city, to immediately organize and
5 establish in every such city a free public employment
6 office, and shall appoint, under such rules and regula-
7 tions as govern appointments to the clerical service in
8 said bureau, one superintendent for each of said offices,
9 to discharge, under the direction of said chief, the duties
10 hereinafter set forth.

1 SECTION 3. Each superintendent shall clearly and
2 plainly indicate by a proper sign the location of his office.

1 SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of such superinten-
2 dents to receive and record in properly arranged books
3 all applications from those seeking employment and also
4 from those desiring to employ, and to take such other
5 action as may best promote the purpose of said offices.
6 Such records shall plainly show in brief the qualifications
7 of all applicants and such other facts as shall be deemed
8 necessary by the chief of said bureau, who shall furnish
9 to each superintendent all such record books, forms,
10 blanks, or other stationery as may be required in con-
11 ducting the office. Each superintendent shall be allowed
12 such clerical assistance as to the chief shall appear neces-
13 sary, appointments thereto being subject to the rules and
14 regulations governing appointments to the clerical service
15 in said bureau.

1 SECTION 5. No fees, direct or indirect, shall in any
2 case be taken from those seeking the benefits of these
3 offices.

1 SECTION 6. The privilege of registration shall be con-
2 fined to residents of the Commonwealth. Proof of resi-

3 dence, when necessary, may be required from a select-
4 man of a town or the mayor of a city.

1 SECTION 7. Each superintendent shall make to the
2 chief of said bureau a weekly report of such applications
3 for labor or employment as may be registered in his
4 office, with full details relating thereto. The said chief
5 shall cause all such reports to be printed and regularly
6 interchanged between every such office, and the several
7 superintendents shall cause the same to be posted in a
8 conspicuous place, to the end that they may be publicly
9 inspected.

1 SECTION 8. Any clerk or superintendent who directly
2 or indirectly charges or receives any fees in the per-
3 formance of his duties shall be deemed guilty of a mis-
4 demeanor, and shall be fined in any sum not to exceed
5 fifty dollars, and shall be imprisoned in the county jail
6 not to exceed thirty days.

1 SECTION 9. Each office shall, upon request of said
2 chief, be provided with suitable rooms, furniture and
3 incidentals, under the direction of the sergeant-at-arms.
4 There shall be paid out of the treasury of the Common-
5 wealth for salaries and for contingent expenses in con-
6 nection with such offices a sum not exceeding
7 annually. The annual salary of each superintendent
8 shall be The amounts expended on ac-
9 count of each office shall be annually computed for each
10 city within which such office is located. The state treas-
11 urer shall thereupon issue his warrant, as provided in
12 section thirty-one of chapter eleven of the Public Statutes,
13 requiring the assessors of such city to assess a tax to the
14 amount of the said expenses, and the sum shall be col-

15 lected and paid over to the state treasurer, in the same
16 manner that other state taxes are levied and paid.

1 SECTION 10. This act shall take effect in any city
2 upon its acceptance by the city government thereof, and
3 immediately after such acceptance due notice thereof
4 shall be transmitted by the city clerk to the chief of the
5 bureau of statistics of labor.