

By Mr. Fortes of Boston, petition of Robert L. Fortes, James P. Collins, Raymond A. Jordan, Jr., Doris Bunte and Bill Owens relative to increased police protection for residents of public housing projects. Urban Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASED POLICE PROTECTION FOR RESIDENTS OF PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS.

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 121B of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 33 the following section: —

3 *Section 33A.* A housing authority shall be provided with
4 adequate police forces by the city or town in which it has a project
5 in operation to protect the person and property of all residents of
6 each project of the authority. All public housing projects shall have
7 uniformed police twenty-four hours per day for patrol and security
8 purposes and there shall be one policeman per each fifty families.
9 The Commonwealth shall reimburse each city and town thirty
10 percent of the cost of providing police forces to the housing
11 authority projects located therein.

12 Each housing authority shall establish a tenant protection
13 advisory council of fifteen members, selected by the residents of
14 each project of the authority in such manner as the authority shall
15 determine by regulation, provided that each project shall have at
16 least one resident on the council. The council shall advise the
17 authority on the subject of tenant protection and shall meet at least
18 monthly with the police officers in charge of housing authority
19 police protection. The Commonwealth shall provide for a program
20 of special incentives and bonuses to encourage police officers to
21 volunteer for such duty. Monies shall be administered by the
22 Department of Community Affairs.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on January first,
2 nineteen hundred and seventy-eight.