

SENATE No. 436

To accompany the petition of Thomas M. Burke that provision be made for the establishment of a division of citizenship in the Department of Education. State Administration.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DIVISION OF CITIZENSHIP IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

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 4 of chapter 15 of the General
2 Laws, as most recently amended by section 4 of chap-
3 ter 652 of the acts of 1947, is hereby further amended
4 by inserting after the word "Americanization", in
5 line 8, the following: —, a division of citizenship, — so
6 as to read as follows: — *Section 4.* Under the direc-
7 tion of the board of education, the commissioner shall
8 be the executive and administrative head of the de-
9 partment. He shall have charge of the administration
10 and enforcement of all laws, rules and regulations
11 which it is the duty of the department to administer
12 and enforce. In the department there shall be a
13 division of public libraries, a division of immigration
14 and Americanization, a division of citizenship, a di-
15 vision of the blind, and such other divisions as the

16 board may determine. The commissioner shall make
17 such recommendations to the board relative to the
18 formation of new divisions in the department as he
19 deems advisable. Each division, except the division
20 of immigration and Americanization, shall be in charge
21 of a director, and each division shall be under the
22 general supervision of the commissioner. Nothing in
23 this chapter shall be construed as affecting the powers
24 and duties of the trustees of the University of Massa-
25 chusetts as set forth in chapter seventy-five.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter 15 is hereby further
2 amended by adding after section 12 the following
3 section under the caption DIVISION OF CITIZENSHIP: —

4 *Section 12A.* The division of citizenship shall con-
5 sist of a director, at such salary as the governor and
6 council may determine, and an advisory board of six
7 members who shall serve without compensation. Upon
8 the expiration of the term of office of a director, or of a
9 member of the advisory board, his successor shall be
10 appointed for five years by the governor, with the
11 advice and consent of the council. Said director and
12 members of the advisory board shall be reimbursed
13 for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance
14 of their duties.

1 SECTION 3. Chapter 69 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by adding after section 11 the follow-
3 ing section: —

4 *Section 11A.* The director of the division of citi-
5 zenship with the approval of the advisory board
6 thereof shall, consistent with law, collect complete
7 information relating to the activities of persons and
8 organizations advocating, advising, counseling or in-

9 citing the overthrow by force or violence of the gov-
10 ernment of the commonwealth or of the United States
11 or whose activities of such a nature are directed or
12 controlled from without the United States and shall
13 employ such methods, consistent with law, as in its
14 judgment will keep the public informed relative to
15 such activities. For the above purposes, the division
16 may co-operate with other officers and departments
17 of the commonwealth and with all public agencies,
18 federal, state and municipal, both within or without
19 the commonwealth. It may require the attendance
20 and testimony of witnesses and the production of
21 books and documents relating to the matter under
22 investigation and may bring to the attention of any
23 court authorized by law to naturalize aliens facts
24 showing such activities by aliens seeking naturaliza-
25 tion. The division shall report to the attorney gen-
26 eral or to a district attorney such facts as may be
27 collected tending to prove violation or attempts to
28 violate the provisions of section eleven of chapter two
29 hundred and sixty-four.

