

**A MANUAL OF LAWS  
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT  
OF PUBLIC WELFARE OF  
MASSACHUSETTS. JULY 1, 1922**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649045044

A Manual of Laws Relating to the Department of Public Welfare of Massachusetts. July 1, 1922  
by Department of Public Welfare

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE**

**A MANUAL OF LAWS  
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT  
OF PUBLIC WELFARE OF  
MASSACHUSETTS. JULY 1, 1922**



Massachusetts. Laws, statutes, etc.  
= Public welfare law

# A MANUAL OF LAWS

ct

RELATING TO THE

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE OF MASSACHUSETTS

JULY 1, 1922



S  
LIS/MAS  
355  
F22

BOSTON  
WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS  
32 DERNE STREET  
1922

Mass  
135  
W 445  
922

Mass.: Separate Laws.

PUBLICATION OF THIS DOCUMENT  
APPROVED BY THE  
SUPERVISOR OF ADMINISTRATION.

NOV 28 1934

A MANUAL OF LAWS RELATING TO THE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE  
OF MASSACHUSETTS.

GENERAL LAWS.

CHAPTER 18.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE.

SECT.

1. Department of public welfare.
2. Organization of the department.  
Commissioner.
3. Advisory board.
4. Clerical and other assistants.
5. Divisions in the department.
6. Expenses of trustees of institutions.

DIVISION OF AID AND RELIEF.

7. Director.
8. Trustees of state infirmary.

SECT.

DIVISION OF CHILD GUARDIANSHIP.

9. Director.
10. Massachusetts Hospital School.

DIVISION OF JUVENILE TRAINING.

11. Director.
12. Board of trustees.
13. Appointment.
14. Secretary. Temporary secretary.
15. Secretary to be the executive officer,  
etc.
16. Clerical assistance.

SECTION 1. There shall be a department of public welfare, in this chapter called the department.

P. S. 79, § 1.  
1886, 101, § 4.

1898, 433, § 24.  
R. L. 34, § 1.

1919, 350, § 87.  
136 Mass. 578.

Department of  
public welfare.  
1863, 240, § 1.  
1879, 291, § 2.

SECTION 2. The department shall be under the supervision and control of a commissioner of public welfare, who shall be its executive and administrative head, and an advisory board consisting of the commissioner, ex officio, and six appointive members, of whom two shall be women. The commissioner shall receive such salary, not exceeding six thousand dollars, as the governor and council determine. Upon the expiration of his term of office, his successor shall be appointed for five years by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council.<sup>1</sup>

Organization  
of the depart-  
ment. Com-  
missioner.  
1919, 350,  
§§ 88, 89.

<sup>1</sup> The Commissioner may designate person to act during his absence or disability (Acts of 1921, chapter 275).

Advisory board.  
1863, 240, § 4.  
1879, 291, § 7.  
P. S. 79, § 3.  
R. L. 84, § 3.  
1919, 350,  
§§ 83, 90.

SECTION 3. Two members of the advisory board shall annually be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, for three years each. The members shall receive no compensation, but shall be reimbursed for their actual necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

Clerical and other assistants.  
1879, 359, § 1.  
1879, 291, § 7.  
P. S. 79, § 3.  
R. L. 84, § 3.  
1919, 350, § 95.

SECTION 4. Except as otherwise provided, the commissioner of public welfare may appoint such officials, agents, clerks and other employees as the work of the department may require, designate their duties, except so far as they are otherwise defined by law, assign them to divisions, transfer and remove them, and fix their compensation. The appointments in the divisions of aid and relief and of child guardianship shall be made with the advice of the directors thereof.

Divisions in the department.  
1908, 598.  
1919, 350,  
§§ 89, 91.

SECTION 5. The commissioner shall organize in the department a division of aid and relief, a division of child guardianship, and a division of juvenile training, each in charge of a director.

Expenses of trustees of institutions.  
1879, 291, § 7.  
P. S. 79, § 3.  
R. L. 84, § 3.  
1904, 448, § 7.  
1908, 639, § 2.

SECTION 6. The members of the boards of trustees of the state institutions under the supervision of the department shall receive no compensation for their services, but their traveling and other necessary expenses shall be allowed and paid.

#### DIVISION OF AID AND RELIEF.

Director.  
1908, 598.  
1919, 350,  
§§ 91, 92.

SECTION 7. The commissioner, with the approval of the governor and council, shall appoint, fix the compensation of, and may with like approval remove, the director of the division of aid and relief, who shall, under the supervision and control of the commissioner, perform the duties required of him by law relative to the state adult poor.

Trustees of state infirmary.  
1852, 275, § 5.  
1854, 437, § 3.  
1869, 177, § 3.  
G. S. 71, § 32.  
1879, 291, § 9.  
P. S. 86, § 13.

SECTION 8. There shall be a board of trustees of the state infirmary serving in the division and consisting of five men and two women, three of whom shall annually in June be appointed by the governor, with the advice and



consent of the council, for three years each, except that in the year nineteen hundred and twenty-one and every third year thereafter only one such trustee shall be so appointed.

1884, 297, § 2.  
1900, 333.  
R. L. 85, § 1.  
1911, 104.  
1919, 199; 350.  
§§ 87, 91.

DIVISION OF CHILD GUARDIANSHIP.

SECTION 9. The commissioner, with the approval of the governor and council, shall appoint, fix the compensation of, and may with like approval remove, a director of the division of child guardianship, who shall, under the supervision and control of the commissioner, perform the duties required of him by law relative to children.

Director.  
1908, 338.  
1919, 350.  
§§ 91, 92.

SECTION 10. There shall be a board of trustees, to be known as the board of trustees of the Massachusetts Hospital School, serving in the division and consisting of five persons. The governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall annually appoint a member of the board, who shall serve for five years beginning on the first Monday in December in the year of his appointment, and until his successor is qualified.

Massachusetts  
Hospital  
School.  
1904, 446, § 1.  
1907, 226, § 1.  
1919, 350.  
§§ 87, 91.

DIVISION OF JUVENILE TRAINING.

SECTION 11. The director of the division of juvenile training shall be a member of the board of trustees of the Massachusetts training schools designated by the governor. He shall receive no compensation as such, and his term of office shall be that of his appointment as such trustee.

Director.  
1919, 350, § 92.

SECTION 12. The board of trustees of the Massachusetts training schools shall consist of nine persons, two of whom shall be women, and shall constitute the division of juvenile training. No person employed by the board for compensation shall be a member thereof.

Board of  
trustees.  
1847, 165, § 1.  
1855, 442, § 1.  
G. S. 75, § 1;  
76, § 1.  
1868, 153, § 1.  
1873, 166.  
1877, 195, § 1.  
1879, 291, § 8.

P. S. 89, § 1.  
1893, 428, § 2.

R. L. 86, § 1.  
1911, 566, § 1.

1919, 350, §§ 87, 91.  
136 Mass. 361.

SECTION 13. The governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall in June of each year appoint two members, except that in nineteen hundred and twenty-one

Appointment.  
1847, 165, § 14.  
1855, 442, § 24.  
G. S. 75, § 1;  
76, § 1.  
1868, 153, § 1.

1873, 166.  
1877, 195, § 1.  
1879, 201, § 8.  
P. S. 89, § 1.  
R. L. 86, § 1.

and every fifth year thereafter one only shall be appointed. The members shall hold office for five years from July first following their appointment.

1911, 566, § 1.

Secretary.  
Temporary  
secretary.  
1911, 566, § 2.

SECTION 14. The trustees shall appoint, and may remove, a secretary not a member of the board, at a salary to be fixed by the trustees. They may appoint a temporary secretary, who may be a member of the board, who shall perform the duties of the secretary in his absence.

Secretary to  
be the execu-  
tive officer,  
etc.  
1911, 566, § 2.

SECTION 15. The secretary shall be the executive officer of the trustees. He shall be paid the necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his duties.

Clerical  
assistance.  
1911, 566, § 2.

SECTION 16. The trustees may expend such sums for clerical assistance and office expenses as may be appropriated by the general court.

For further provisions regarding powers of the Department of Public Welfare and the Trustees of the Massachusetts Hospital School, see chap. 121, page 107, *infra*.

For further provisions regarding powers of the Trustees of the State Infirmary, see chap. 122, page 121, *infra*.

For further provisions regarding powers of the Trustees of Massachusetts Training Schools, see chap. 120, page 98, *infra*.

CHAPTER 41.

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF CITIES, TOWNS AND DISTRICTS.

ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. Every town at its annual meeting shall in every year when the term of office of any incumbent expires, and except when other provision is made by law, choose by ballot from its inhabitants the following town officers for the following terms of office:

1859, 204.	1886, 150; 295, § 1.	1901, 482.
G. S. 18, § 31;	1888, 221, § 1.	R. L. 11, §§ 334, 338.
38, §§ 16, 21.	1893, 304, § 1;	1907, 560, §§ 332, 366.
1871, 158.	417, § 206.	1915, 494, § 1;
1874, 389.	1894, 16; 218; 473, § 1.	835, §§ 400,
1877, 186.	1895, 506, §§ 2, 3.	405, 503.
1878, 255.	1896, 190, § 1; 319.	1915, 282, § 1.
1879, 223, § 4.	1898, 548, §§ 331, 334.	1916, 391, § 26.
P. S. 27, § 78;	1899, 330, § 1.	1920, 591, § 23.
44, §§ 21, 26.		

Officers to be elected.  
1788, 52, § 1;  
75, § 2.  
1826, 143, § 5.  
R. S. 15, § 33;  
19, § 16;  
23, § 16.  
1857, 270,  
§§ 1, 2, 4.

Three or five overseers of the poor for the term of one or three years unless the town votes to authorize its selectmen to act as overseers of the poor.

Three members of the board of health for the term of three years if the town provides for such board, otherwise the selectmen shall act as a board of health.

182 Mass. 39.  
194 Mass. 51.

All other town officers shall be appointed by the selectmen unless other provision is made by law or by vote of the town.

Women shall be eligible as overseers of the poor, members of the school committee and library trustees.

In any case where three or more members of a board are to be elected for terms of more than one year, as nearly one third as may be shall be elected annually.

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

SECTION 31. A town which chooses its overseers of the poor for one year may, instead of electing such officers, provide by vote that the selectmen shall act also as over-

Selectmen may act as overseers of the poor.  
1785, 75, § 2.