

bursement under section seven A of this chapter until its census return hereunder shall have been accepted by the secretary.

From the returns so made and accepted, with such amendments as the secretary may find necessary to correct any errors or omissions therein, the secretary shall compile the census of inhabitants of each city and town required by Article CI of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution, shall submit the result thereof to the general court by filing the same with the clerk of the house of representatives as soon as possible thereafter and may publish the results thereof in such form as he may determine.

SECTION 2. Said chapter 9 is hereby further amended by striking out section 7A, inserted by chapter 812 of the acts of 1971, and inserting in place thereof the following section:

Section 7A.

Subject to appropriation therefor, the state treasurer shall reimburse each city and town towards the cost of the census taken by it under section seven a sum equal to the total number of inhabitants reported in such city or town by the secretary in his report to the general court of the census of inhabitants required by Article CI of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution, as provided in section seven, multiplied by twenty-five cents. No later than thirty days following the submission of the aforesaid report by the state secretary, the governor shall recommend to the general court the appropriation of sufficient funds to pay the amount owed to cities and towns under this section, and the method of financing such state expenditure. The state treasurer shall reimburse to each city and town the sum owed to it hereunder, not later than ninety days following the effective date of the act appropriating the required amount from the state treasury.

SECTION 3. Said chapter 9 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 9 the following section:

Section 9A.

There shall be in the department of the state secretary, but not under his supervision or control, a local election districts review commission consisting of the attorney general or his designee, the state secretary or his designee, and a person appointed by the governor. Members designated by the attorney general, the state secretary, and by the governor shall serve during the pleasure of their respective designating officers. Each member of the commission shall receive the sum of twenty-five dollars for each day or part thereof for his service as a commissioner, provided that such payments to any one member shall not exceed two thousand five hundred dollars in any one year, and that such payments shall not be made to any commission member who holds another full-time paid office or position in the service of the commonwealth. Members of the commission shall receive from the commonwealth their necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of their statutory duties. Said commission shall be furnished with any books or records which it may require from any department or agency of the commonwealth or of any of its political subdivisions. Said commission shall oversee and supervise the division of the cities and towns into wards and precincts as required by chapter fifty-four. Said commission may travel within the commonwealth. The commission shall be provided with suitable offices in the state house, or elsewhere within the city of Boston. The commission may, subject to appropriation, incur such expenses as may be necessary to the execution of duties invested in it by said chapter fifty-four, or by any statute of the commonwealth not incorporated into the General Laws.

SECTION 4. Section thirty-one of chapter twelve of the General Laws is hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. Chapter 54 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 1, as most recently amended by section 3 of chapter 735 of the acts of 1972, and inserting in place thereof the following section:

Section 1.

In the year nineteen hundred and seventy-five, no later than June fifteenth, a city by vote of its city council may, if the existing wards in such city do not

contain, as nearly as can be ascertained, an equal number of inhabitants, make a new division of its territory into such number of wards as may be fixed by law. In the year nineteen hundred and eighty-five, and every tenth year thereafter, no later than June fifteenth, a city, by vote of its city council may, or if the existing wards in such city do not contain, as nearly as can be ascertained, an equal number of inhabitants, shall make a new division of its territory into such number of wards as may be fixed by law. Any such vote of a city council hereunder dividing a city into wards shall, at the same time, divide each ward into such number of precincts as is required by section two. Not later than July first in such year the city clerk shall give written notice to the state secretary of the number and designation of wards and precincts provided for in this section and in section two, together with an official map and description of said wards and precincts indicating, as nearly as can be ascertained, the numbers of inhabitants residing therein.

The state secretary shall make available to the local election districts review commission, for its scrutiny, the written notices, maps and descriptive information submitted to him by city clerks in reference to the new or unrevised wards and precincts of their respective cities under this section. If the said commission shall find that any such plan of new or unrevised wards or precincts of any city conflicts with the applicable requirements of this chapter, or is of questionable constitutionality, it shall transmit a written notice of such findings, with a clear indication of the deficiencies of such plan, to the mayor of such city, or in a city having a council-manager form of government to the city manager, not later than September first immediately following. Said mayor or city manager shall, within fifteen days following his receipt of such notice, present to the city council of such city his recommendations for a division of the city into wards and precincts free of the defects cited by the commission. If the city council shall fail to ordain such division, or a substitute division, conformable to this chapter within twenty days after said presentation by said mayor or city manager, he shall issue forthwith, not later than October fifteenth immediately following, an executive order making a division of said city into wards and precincts subject to the approval of the local election districts review commission which shall take effect according to the provisions of this chapter, as though it had been ordained by the city council.

Any such division made under the provisions of this section shall, for the purpose of reporting the census of inhabitants in each ward and precinct of such city required by the constitution, take effect retroactively to the day established by section seven of chapter nine as the state decennial census day of the year in which such census is required to be taken under the provisions of Article CI of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution, but for all other purposes shall take effect only as provided in section four.

SECTION 6. The second paragraph of section 2 of said chapter 54, added by section 4 of chapter 820 of the acts of 1971, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 4, the words "Article XCII" and inserting in place thereof the words:—
Article CI.

SECTION 7. Said chapter 54 is hereby further amended by striking out section 4, as most recently amended by chapter 38 of the acts of 1973, and inserting in place thereof the following section:

Section 4.

All municipal elections and primaries held in any city after it has been redivided into wards and prior to any antecedent primary of the first biennial state election at which representatives are to be elected from new representative districts established under the provisions of the constitution, shall be held in such city as redivided; provided, that the wards established by such redivision, if made in a state decennial census year as provided in section six, may not be used for such municipal elections and primaries in said year unless such wards are established by the city council, and approved by the local election districts review commission, prior to May first of said year; and provided, further, that the city council of a city may for the purpose of any municipal election and its antecedent primary or preliminary election, if any, held prior to said antecedent



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CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

BOARD OF
ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

June 23, 1975

Mr. Paul E. Healy
City Clerk
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Healy:

Enclosed please find copy of Section 1, Chapter 10 of
the Acts of 1975, which states that redistricting of wards and
precincts must be done before June 15th in the current year.

Very truly yours,

Francis P. Burns
Election Commissioner

FPB:jm

Enc.

22.

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Comm. from Francis P. Burns, Election Commissioner, re: to the redistricting of ward and precincts in the City of Cambridge.

4/23/75

Placed on File

In City Council,

June 23, 1975

Copies to All Commissioners

Report required
from Mr. Burns

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