

## A BILL

## AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE BETTER GOVERNMENT OF CITIES AND INCORPORATED TOWNS.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Iowa :*

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the Governor to ascertain and know whether the penal laws of the State are faithfully executed in the several cities and incorporated towns.

SEC. 2. The Governor may, whenever in his judgment necessary, appoint one or more commissioners of inquiry who shall serve under the direction of the Governor, and at his pleasure, and who shall have power to issue subpoenas, administer oaths, compel the attendance of witnesses before him, and also to compel answers, under oath, from witnesses subpoenaed before him, to such interrogatories as may be proper to inform the Governor of the matters specified in the first section of this act.

SEC. 3. Whenever any of the penal laws of the State are openly, notoriously and continuously violated in any city or incorporated town, the Governor shall remove the mayor of such city or town, and appoint his successor, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor to the end of the term for which the mayor so removed was elected or appointed to serve, and until his successor is duly provided and qualified.

SEC. 4. The mayor appointed by the Governor, as provided in the last above section, shall have control and direction of the police officers of said city or town, except the police judge and city attorney, and he may remove any and all of them at his pleasure, including the police judge, if there be one, and the city attorney, and shall appoint their successors, who shall serve during his pleasure to the end of his term of office, and until their successors are duly provided and qualified.

SEC. 5. Commissioners of inquiry appointed by the Governor under this act, shall receive their actual necessary hotel and travelling expenses, and three dollars per day, and warrants for such compensation shall be drawn by the Auditor upon the treasury of the State upon the recommendation of the Governor.

SEC. 6. All officers appointed under this act to fill vacancies caused by removals thereunder shall receive the same compensation that was provided for their predecessors, and shall be paid in the same manner.

SEC. 7. Mayors appointed under this act to fill vacancies caused by removals under the same may appoint such additional police officers as he shall deem necessary to the good government of such city or town and for the faithful enforcement of the penal laws of the

4 State therein, and such officers shall receive such compensation as was theretofore allowed  
5 officers of like character in such city or town, to be paid in the same manner.

SEC. 8. All removals under this act shall be by notice in writing, to be served as original  
2 notices are now required to be served, and the same compensation shall be allowed therefor.  
3 All notices of removal shall name the successor of the officer so removed, and the officer thus  
4 removed shall at once, upon the service of said notice upon him, release his office and every-  
5 thing belonging thereto to his successor, named in said notice, such notice to be  
6 signed by the Governor or mayor making the removal. Any officer who resists a removal  
7 under this act, or who refuses to release his office to his successor, as herein provided, shall  
8 upon conviction, be confined in the penitentiary of the State not exceeding two years.

SEC. 9 The Governor shall command the militia, or any part thereof, whenever neces-  
2 sary to sustain the officers of the State in the enforcement of its laws, and in compelling  
3 obedience thereto.

SEC. 10. All laws, acts, and parts of acts, inconsistent with this act, are hereby repealed.

SEC. 11. This act, being deemed of immediate importance, shall take effect upon its pub-  
2 lication in Iowa State Register and the Des Moines Leader, newspapers published at Des  
3 Moines, Iowa.