

HOUSE No. 1810

By Mr. Vaughan of Belmont, petition of Frank S. Knapp and others for legislation to increase the number of judges of probate in Middlesex County. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Three.

AN ACT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF JUDGES OF PROBATE IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

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 two of chapter two hundred and seventeen
2 of the General Laws, as amended by section two of
3 chapter four hundred and thirty-four of the acts of
4 nineteen hundred and thirty-five, is hereby further
5 amended by striking out the first sentence and in-
6 serting in place thereof the following:— There shall
7 be three judges of probate in each of the counties of
8 Suffolk and Middlesex and two judges of probate in
9 each of the counties of Essex, Worcester and Hampden,
10 — so as to read as follows:— *Section 2.* There
11 shall be three judges of probate in each of the counties
12 of Suffolk and Middlesex and two judges of probate
13 in each of the counties of Essex, Worcester and
14 Hampden. The senior judge shall be the first judge

15 in each county, to whom, and to his successors, all
16 bonds required by law to be given to the judge of
17 probate for said counties shall be made payable.
18 The probate court and the court of insolvency for
19 said counties may be held by one or both of the judges,
20 and, when so held, shall have and exercise all the
21 powers and jurisdiction committed to the respective
22 courts. The judges shall so arrange the performance
23 of their duties as to insure a prompt and punctual
24 discharge thereof. The judges may perform each
25 other's duties when necessary or convenient. Simul-
26 taneous sessions of the courts in said counties may be
27 held if public convenience requires. Citations, orders
28 of notice and all other processes issued by the register
29 of probate and insolvency, in this chapter called the
30 register, for any of said counties, shall bear teste of the
31 first judge of said court. Deposits or investments
32 made in the name of the judge of probate shall be in
33 the name of the first judge of the court, and shall be
34 subject to the order of the court.