

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1090

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By Mr. Tuttle of Framingham, petition of J. Walton Tuttle and Charles N. Hargraves for legislation to limit the amount recoverable from towns on account of the support of inmates in state sanatoria. Public Welfare.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Two.

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An Act limiting the Amount Recoverable from Towns on Account of Inmates in State Sanatoria.

*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 sixty-six of chapter one hundred and eleven  
2 of the General Laws, as amended by section one of  
3 chapter four hundred and sixty and by section three  
4 of chapter five hundred, both of the acts of nineteen  
5 hundred and twenty-four, and by chapter one hun-  
6 dred and thirty-nine of the acts of nineteen hundred  
7 and twenty-seven is hereby further amended by  
8 striking out the last fifteen words in the fifth sentence  
9 of said section and inserting in place thereof the  
10 following words:— exceed ten dollars and fifty cents  
11 per week in the case of an adult inmate, — so as to  
12 read as follows:— *Section 66.* The charges for the  
13 support of each inmate in a state sanatorium shall be  
14 seven dollars a week, and shall be paid quarterly.

15 Such charges for those not having known settlements  
16 in the commonwealth shall be paid by it, and may  
17 afterward be recovered by the state treasurer of the  
18 inmates, if they are able to pay, or of any person or  
19 kindred bound by law to maintain them, or of the  
20 place of their settlement subsequently ascertained;  
21 but for those having known settlements in the com-  
22 monwealth, the charges shall be paid either by the  
23 persons bound to pay them or by the town where such  
24 inmates had their settlement, unless security to the  
25 satisfaction of the commissioner is given for their  
26 support. If any person or town refuses or neglects  
27 to pay such charges the state treasurer may recover  
28 the same to the use of the sanatorium. A town which  
29 pays the charges for the support of an inmate of a  
30 state sanatorium shall have like rights and remedies  
31 to recover the amount thereof, with interest and  
32 costs, from the town of his settlement or from such  
33 person of sufficient ability, or from any person bound  
34 by law to maintain him, as if such charges had been  
35 incurred in the ordinary support of such inmate. If  
36 in any case the charges, as established by this section,  
37 for the support of an adult inmate are not paid in  
38 accordance with this section by the inmate or by the  
39 persons bound to pay them and a town becomes  
40 liable to pay them, such town shall be liable to pay  
41 such sum, in addition to such charges, as shall be  
42 fixed by the department, but the total amount in-  
43 cluding such charges shall not exceed ten dollars and  
44 fifty cents per week in the case of an adult inmate.  
45 In such a case, the provisions of this section relative  
46 to the recovery of charges by the state treasurer, and  
47 by a town from the town of settlement, shall apply  
48 to the recovery of such total amount. This section

49 shall not apply to patients received under any con-  
50 tract made under authority of section seventy-nine.  
51 In all proceedings under this section, the sworn  
52 written statement of a person that he is the superin-  
53 tendent of a state sanatorium or that he keeps or has  
54 custody of records of accounts of inmates thereof, and  
55 that a certain person has been an inmate therein  
56 during a certain period at a certain charge and that  
57 no satisfactory security was given shall be prima facie  
58 evidence of the said facts.

