

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1865

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 13, 1938.

The committee on Bills in the Third Reading, to whom was referred the Bill permitting dancing in theatres on the Lord's Day (House, No. 742), report recommending that the same be amended by the substitution of the accompanying bill (House, No. 1865).

For the committee,

A. I. ZIMON.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

### AN ACT PERMITTING DANCING ON THE STAGES OF THEATRES ON THE LORD'S DAY IN CERTAIN CASES.

*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 four of chapter one hundred and thirty-six  
2 of the General Laws, as appearing in the Tercentenary  
3 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the  
4 word "observance" in the thirteenth line the follow-  
5 ing: — , and provided, further, that such a license for  
6 an entertainment or the approval thereof shall not be  
7 withheld because of the fact that such an entertain-  
8 ment consists in whole or in part of vaudeville in the  
9 course of which the performers dance on the stage of  
10 a theatre, if such entertainment otherwise meets the  
11 requirements of this section, — so as to read as fol-  
12 lows: — *Section 4.* Except as provided in section one  
13 hundred and five of chapter one hundred and forty-  
14 nine, the mayor of a city or the selectmen of a town  
15 may, upon written application describing the proposed  
16 entertainment, grant, upon such terms or conditions  
17 as they may prescribe, a license to hold on the Lord's  
18 day a public entertainment, in keeping with the  
19 character of the day and not inconsistent with its due  
20 observance, to which admission is to be obtained upon  
21 payment of money or other valuable consideration;

22 provided, that no such license shall be granted to have  
23 effect before one o'clock in the afternoon, nor shall it  
24 have effect unless the proposed entertainment shall,  
25 upon application accompanied by a fee of two dollars,  
26 have been approved in writing by the commissioner of  
27 public safety as being in keeping with the character of  
28 the day and not inconsistent with its due observance,  
29 and provided, further, that such a license for an enter-  
30 tainment or the approval thereof shall not be withheld  
31 because of the fact that such an entertainment consists  
32 in whole or in part of vaudeville in the course of which  
33 the performers dance on the stage of a theatre, if such  
34 entertainment otherwise meets the requirements of  
35 this section.

36 Any such license may, after notice and a hearing  
37 given by the mayor or selectmen issuing the same, or  
38 by said commissioner, be suspended, revoked or an-  
39 nulled by the officer or board giving the hearing.

