

HOUSE No. 1594

By Mr. Worrall of Wareham, petition of Raymond J. Cosseboom for legislation relative to the punishment of tramps. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-One.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PUNISHMENT OF TRAMPS.

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 1. Section 64 of chapter 272 of the Gen-
2 eral Laws, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition,
3 is hereby amended by striking out, in the second and
4 third lines thereof, the words "for not less than six
5 months nor more than two years, or by imprisonment
6 at the state farm;" and inserting in place thereof the
7 words:— for not more than two years;— so as to
8 read as follows:— *Section 64.* A tramp shall be pun-
9 ished by imprisonment in the house of correction for
10 not more than two years; and if he enters a dwelling
11 house or other building without the consent of the
12 owner or occupant thereof, or wilfully or maliciously
13 injures or threatens to injure any person therein, or
14 threatens to do any injury to any person, or to the
15 property of another, or is found carrying a firearm
16 or other dangerous weapon, he shall be punished by
17 imprisonment in the house of correction for not less

18 than one nor more than two and one half years, or at
19 the state farm, but notwithstanding the foregoing a
20 tramp found carrying a firearm or other dangerous
21 weapon in violation of section ten of chapter two
22 hundred and sixty-nine may be prosecuted and pun-
23 ished thereunder.

1 SECTION 2. Section 66 of chapter 272 of the Gen-
2 eral Laws, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition,
3 as amended by the acts of 1939, chapter 451, section
4 67, is hereby amended by striking out in the eighth
5 and ninth lines the words "be sentenced to the
6 Massachusetts reformatory or state farm or shall",—
7 so as to read as follows:— *Section 66.* Idle persons
8 who, not having visible means of support, live without
9 lawful employment; persons wandering abroad and
10 visiting tippling shops or houses of ill fame, or lodging
11 in groceries, outhouses, market places, sheds, barns
12 or in the open air, and not giving a good account of
13 themselves; persons wandering abroad and begging,
14 or who go about from door to door, or place them-
15 selves in public ways, passages or other public places
16 to beg or receive alms, and who do not come within
17 the description of tramps, as contained in section
18 sixty-three, shall be deemed vagrants, and may be
19 punished by imprisonment for not more than six
20 months in the house of correction.