

HOUSE No. 241

Bill accompanying the petition of The Massachusetts State Association of Spiritualists for legislation relative to the practice of healing by unregistered physicians. Public Health. January 18.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine.

AN ACT

Relative to the Practice of Healing by Unregistered Physicians.

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 nine of chapter seventy-six
2 of the Revised Laws is hereby amended by strik-
3 ing out all of said section after the word “gratu-
4 itously,” in the eighteenth line, and inserting in
5 place thereof the following:—nor to persons who
6 treat disease, physical ailments, defects or condi-
7 tions of any person, or diagnose the same with
8 a view to treat, by the methods usually employed
9 in the practice of osteopathy, magnetic healing,
10 massage, hypnotism, clairvoyance, mind cure,

11 prayer cure, Christian Science or cosmopathic
12 method of healing, if their methods do not, except
13 on advice and in conjunction with a registered
14 physician, involve the practice of surgery, obstet-
15 rics, or the treating of contagious diseases that are
16 required by law to be quarantined, or the prescrib-
17 ing or administering of drugs, medicines, chem-
18 icals and poisons, unually known as dangerous
19 agencies, or if they do not hold themselves out as
20 registered according to the preceding sections of
21 this chapter, — so as to read as follows: —

22 *Section 9.* The provisions of the eight preceding
23 sections shall not be held to discriminate against
24 any particular school or system of medicine, to pro-
25 hibit medical or surgical service in a case of
26 emergency, or to prohibit the domestic administra-
27 tion of family remedies. They shall not apply to
28 a commissioned medical officer of the United States
29 army, navy or marine hospital service in the per-
30 formance of his official duty; to a physician or
31 surgeon from another state who is a legal practi-
32 tioner in the state in which he resides, when in
33 actual consultation with a legal practitioner of this
34 commonwealth; to a physician or surgeon resid-
35 ing in another state and legally qualified to practise
36 therein, whose general practice extends into the
37 border towns of this commonwealth, if such physi-
38 cian does not open an office or designate a place in
39 such towns where he may meet patients or receive
40 calls; to a physician authorized to practise medi-
41 cine in another state, when he is called as a family
42 physician to attend a person temporarily abiding
43 in this commonwealth; nor to registered pharma-
44 cists in prescribing gratuitously; nor to persons

45 who treat disease, physical ailments, defects or
46 conditions of any person, or diagnosticate the same
47 with a view to treat by the methods usually em-
48 ployed in the practice of osteopathy, magnetic
49 healing, massage, hypnotism, clairvoyance, mind
50 cure, prayer cure, Christian Science, or cosmopathic
51 method of healing, if their methods do not, except
52 on advice and in conjunction with a registered
53 physician, involve the practice of surgery, obstet-
54 rics, or the treating of contagious diseases that are
55 required by law to be quarantined, or the prescrib-
56 ing or administering of drugs, medicines, chem-
57 icals and poisons, usually known as dangerous
58 agencies, or if they do not hold themselves out as
59 registered according to the preceding sections of
60 this chapter.

