

HOUSE No. 187

By Mr. Donlan of Boston, petition of Edmond J. Donlan for legislation to provide that in actions at law or suits in equity in the Superior Court the parties may agree to trials by juries of six men. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT IN ANY ACTION AT LAW OR SUIT IN EQUITY IN THE SUPERIOR COURT THE PARTIES MAY AGREE THAT THE CAUSE MAY BE TRIED BY A JURY OF SIX MEN.

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. Chapter two hundred and thirty-one
2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting
3 after section sixty A, as appearing in the Tercentenary
4 Edition, the following section:—
5 *Section 60B.* In any action at law or suit in equity,
6 after issue joined in the superior court, the parties
7 may, if a trial by jury has been claimed, by a writing
8 filed in the clerk's office, offer to waive the right to
9 have the cause tried by a jury of twelve persons and
10 agree that said cause may be tried by a jury of six
11 men.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on September
2 first in the current year, and shall be effective until
3 the termination of the present state of war.