

# HOUSE . . . . No. 179

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By Mr. O'Neill of Cambridge, petition of Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., relative to the offering of rewards by the Governor for the detention, arrest and conviction of persons who have committed a felony. Legal Affairs.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE OFFERING OF REWARDS BY THE GOVERNOR FOR THE DETENTION, ARREST AND CONVICTION OF PERSONS WHO HAVE COMMITTED A FELONY.

*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 9 of chapter 276 of the General  
2 Laws, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, is  
3 hereby amended by striking out, in the 2d line, the  
4 word "one" and inserting in place thereof the word:—  
5 five, — so as to read as follows:— *Section 9.* The  
6 governor, if he deems the public good so requires,  
7 may offer a suitable reward of not more than five  
8 thousand dollars in any one case to be paid by the  
9 commonwealth to any person who, in consequence of  
10 such offer, apprehends, brings back and secures a  
11 person who is convicted of or charged with a felony,  
12 who has escaped from prison in the commonwealth,  
13 or to any person who, in consequence of such offer,

14 apprehends and secures a person charged with such  
15 crime, or for information that shall lead to the arrest  
16 and conviction of any person who has committed a  
17 felony, if the person cannot be arrested and secured in  
18 the common course of proceedings. If more than one  
19 claimant applies for the payment of such reward,  
20 the governor shall determine to whom it shall be  
21 paid, and if to more than one person, in what propor-  
22 tion to each, and his determination shall be final.

1 SECTION 2. Any reward paid by the common-  
2 wealth under said section nine of said chapter two  
3 hundred and seventy-six during the year nineteen  
4 hundred and forty-six, or during the current year and  
5 prior to the effective date of this act, may be increased  
6 by the governor to the same extent as if the provisions  
7 of this act were in effect at the time such reward was  
8 offered.