

SENATE . . . No. 105

To accompany the petition of William A. McGivney for legislation relative to crimes against chastity, morality, decency and good order and the punishment therefor. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CERTAIN CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY,
MORALITY, DECENCY AND GOOD ORDER AND THE PUNISH-
MENT THEREFOR.

*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 272 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out section 53, as amended
3 by chapter 377 of the acts of 1943, and inserting in
4 place thereof the following section: —
5 *Section 53.* Stubborn children, runaways, common
6 drunkards, common night walkers, both male and
7 female, common railers and brawlers, persons who
8 with offensive and disorderly act or language accost
9 or annoy persons of either sex, persons who with in-
10 tent to commit an immoral, lewd, lascivious or offen-
11 sive act accost or annoy persons of either sex, lewd,
12 wanton and lascivious persons in speech or behavior,
13 idle and disorderly persons, disturbers of the peace,
14 keepers of noisy and disorderly houses and persons

15 guilty of indecent exposure may be punished by im-
16 prisonment in a jail or house of correction for not
17 more than six months, or by imprisonment at the
18 state farm, or by a fine of not more than two hundred
19 dollars, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

1 SECTION 2. Section 54 of said chapter 272, as ap-
2 pearing in the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby
3 amended by inserting after the word "may", in
4 line 3, the words:—upon view or information,—so
5 as to read as follows:—*Section 54.* Whoever is found
6 in a public way or other public place, committing
7 any offence or disorder mentioned in the preceding
8 section, may upon view or information be appre-
9 hended by a sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable or police
10 officer, or by any other person by the order of a magis-
11 trate or any of said officers, without a warrant and be
12 kept in custody for not more than twenty-four hours,
13 Sundays and legal holidays excepted, until he can be
14 taken before a court or trial justice having jurisdiction
15 of such offence.