

# SENATE . . . . No. 428

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To accompany the petition of David S. Smith for legislation relative to qualifications of osteopathic physicians certifying to insanity. Public Welfare.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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### AN ACT RELATIVE TO QUALIFICATIONS OF OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS CERTIFYING TO INSANITY.

*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 53 of chapter 123 of the General Laws, as  
2 amended, is hereby further amended by striking out  
3 the first two sentences and inserting in place thereof  
4 the following two sentences:— No physician shall  
5 make a certificate of insanity under section fifty-one  
6 unless he makes oath that he is a graduate of a legally  
7 chartered medical school or college or a legally char-  
8 tered and approved osteopathic school or college;  
9 that he has been in the actual practice of medicine for  
10 three years since his graduation and for three years  
11 last preceding the making of said oath; and that he  
12 is registered as a physician in accordance with chapter  
13 one hundred and twelve, nor unless his standing,  
14 character and professional knowledge of insanity are  
15 satisfactory to the judge. Where, in the opinion of

16 the judge, it is practicable within his jurisdiction, at  
17 least one of the two physicians required to make a  
18 certificate of insanity under section fifty-one shall be  
19 a diplomate in psychiatry of the American Board of  
20 Psychiatry and Neurology, Incorporated, or of the  
21 American College of Osteopathic Neuropsychiatrists.