

SENATE No. 435

To accompany the petition of Harold R. Lundgren for legislation to prohibit members of the General Court and other officials from attempting to influence the parole, pardon or commutation of sentence of a prisoner. Public Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROHIBITING MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COURT AND CERTAIN OTHER ELECTED OR APPOINTED OFFICIALS FROM ATTEMPTING TO INFLUENCE ACTION OF THE PAROLE BOARD OR THE ADVISORY BOARD FOR PARDONS RELATIVE TO THE PARDONING, PAROLE OR COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE OF ANY PRISONER, PAROLEE OR OTHER PERSONS UNDER THEIR JURISDICTION OR CONTROL.

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 167 of chapter 127 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in section 5 of chapter 690 of the acts of
3 1941, is hereby amended by inserting at the end the
4 following: —

5 No member of the general court or of the executive
6 council, nor any other person holding an elective or
7 appointive office within the commonwealth or any
8 subdivision thereof, shall solicit or in any way attempt
9 to influence the action of the parole board or the ad-
10 visory board of pardons for the procurement of any

11 pardon, parole or commutation of sentence of any
12 prisoner then confined in, or at liberty after having
13 been confined in, any of the penal institutions of the
14 commonwealth.

15 No person holding an elective or appointive office,
16 as referred to above, shall appear before or communi-
17 cate with the said parole board or the advisory board
18 of pardons, or any member thereof, for the purpose of
19 procuring a pardon, parole or commutation of sen-
20 tence of any prisoner then confined in, or at liberty
21 after having been confined in, any of the penal insti-
22 tutions of this commonwealth.