

SENATE No. 599

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SENATE, March 12, 1953.

The committee on Legal Affairs, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 441) of Arthur J. Gross for legislation relative to false statements in the records of inmates in hospitals under the jurisdiction of the Department of Mental Health; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 442) of Arthur J. Gross for legislation relative to the commitment of persons to State hospitals under the jurisdiction of the Department of Mental Health; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1530) of Lockwood Myrick relative to the Board of Appeal in the Department of Mental Health; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1531) of Lockwood Myrick for legislation relative to the adjudication of sanity; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1532) of Lockwood Myrick relative to the admission or commitment of persons to institutions under the control of the Department of Mental Health and to their transfer, release or discharge therefrom; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1959) of Estella E. Marshall for legislation relative to the commitment and care of the insane, report the accompanying Order (Senate, No. 599).

For the committee,

RICHARD H. LEE.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SENATE, March 1953.

Ordered, That the joint committee on Legal Affairs is hereby authorized to sit during the recess of the General Court for the purpose of making a study and investigation of the laws pertaining to the adjudication of insanity, commitment of insane persons to certain institutions under the department of mental health, the care of said persons and their transfers, release or discharge therefrom, with a view to recommending to the General Court such changes therein or revisions thereof as it may deem necessary or advisable. Said committee shall in the course of such study consider the subject matter of current senate documents numbered 441 and 442 and current house documents numbered 1530, 1531, 1532 and 1959. Said committee may travel within the commonwealth and may expend for clerical and other assistance and for expenses such sums as may be appropriated therefor. Said committee shall report to the General Court the results of its study and investigation, including its recommendations and drafts of legislation necessary to carry such recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the clerk of the senate on or before the first Wednesday of December in the current year.