

HOUSE No. 2605

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 24, 1955.

The committee on Public Safety, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 717) of John A. Murdock and others for the abolition of extra first grade licenses for firemen operating boilers, report the accompanying bill (House, No. 2605).

For the committee,

SAMUEL J. BOUDREAU.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ABOLISHING THE LICENSING OF FIREMEN OF THE EXTRA FIRST CLASS GRADE.

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 146 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by striking out section 49, as amended, and in-
3 serting in place thereof the following section: —

4 *Section 49.* Licenses shall be granted according to
5 the competence of the applicant, and shall be classified
6 as follows: Engineers' licenses: First class, to have
7 charge of and operate any steam plant. Second class,
8 to have charge of and operate a boiler or boilers, and to
9 have charge of and operate engines, no one of which shall
10 exceed one hundred and fifty horse power, or to operate
11 a first class plant under the engineer in direct charge
12 thereof. Third class, to have charge of and operate a
13 boiler or boilers not exceeding in the aggregate one hun-
14 dred and fifty horse power, and an engine or engines not
15 exceeding fifty horse power each, or to operate a second
16 class plant under the engineer in direct charge thereof.
17 Fourth class, to have charge of and operate hoisting and
18 portable steam engines and boilers. Boiler engineer class,
19 to have charge of and operate any boiler or boilers and
20 any engines, turbines or pumps used exclusively for their
21 operation. Portable class, to have charge of or to oper-
22 ate portable boilers and portable engines, except hoisting
23 engines or steam fire engines. Steam fire engineer's class,
24 to have charge of or to operate steam fire engines and
25 boilers. Firemen's licenses: First class, to have charge
26 of and operate any boiler or boilers where the safety valve
27 or valves are set to blow at a pressure not exceeding

28 twenty-five pounds to the square inch, or to operate
29 high pressure boilers under the engineer in direct charge
30 thereof. Second class, to operate any boiler or boilers
31 under the engineer or fireman in direct charge thereof.
32 A person holding a first class fireman's license may oper-
33 ate a third class plant under the engineer in direct charge
34 thereof. Special licenses: A person who desires to have
35 charge of or to operate a particular steam plant may, if
36 he files with his application for such examination a writ-
37 ten request signed by the owner or user of the plant, be
38 examined as to his competence for such service and no
39 other, and, if found competent and trustworthy, he shall
40 be granted a license for such service, and no other; pro-
41 vided, that no special license shall be granted to give any
42 person charge of or permission to operate an engine of
43 over fifty horse power, or a boiler or boilers exceeding in
44 the aggregate one hundred and fifty horse power, except
45 that where the main power plant is run exclusively by
46 water power, developed on the premises of such plant a
47 major part of the year, and has auxiliary steam power
48 for use during periods of low water, a special license may
49 be granted to an applicant holding an engineer's license.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter 146 is hereby further
2 amended by striking out section 50, as amended by
3 chapter 36 of the acts of 1951, and inserting in place
4 thereof the following section: —

5 *Section 50.* To be eligible for examination for a first
6 class fireman's license, a person must have been em-
7 ployed as a steam engineer or fireman in charge of op-
8 erating boilers for not less than one year, or he must have
9 held and used a second class fireman's license for not less
10 than six months. To be eligible for examination for a
11 boiler engineer's license, a person must have been em-
12 ployed as a steam engineer or fireman, in charge of boilers
13 where the safety valves were set to blow at a pressure in
14 excess of twenty-five pounds per square inch, for not less
15 than two years, or a person must have held and used a
16 first class fireman's license for not less than three years,

17 or have held and used a third class engineer's license for
18 not less than one year, except that any person who has
19 served three years as apprentice to the machinist or
20 boiler-making trade in stationary, marine or locomotive
21 engine or boiler works, and who has been employed for
22 one year in connection with the operation of a steam
23 plant, or any person graduated as a mechanical engineer,
24 chemical engineer or electrical engineer from a duly rec-
25 ognized school of technology who has been employed for
26 one year in connection with the operation of a steam
27 plant, shall be eligible for examination for a boiler engi-
28 neer's license. To be eligible for examination for a third
29 class engineer's license, a person must have been em-
30 ployed as a steam engineer or fireman in charge of or op-
31 erating boilers for not less than one and one half years,
32 or he must have held and used a first class fireman's li-
33 cense for not less than one year. To be eligible for exam-
34 ination for a second class engineer's license, a person must
35 have been employed as an engineer in charge of a steam
36 plant or plants having at least one engine of over fifty
37 horse power for not less than two years, or he must have
38 held and used a third class engineer's license either as an
39 engineer, assistant engineer or fireman for not less than
40 one year, or have held and used a special license to oper-
41 ate a first class plant for not less than two years; except
42 that any person who has served three years as apprentice
43 to the machinist or boiler making trade in stationary,
44 marine or locomotive engine or boiler works and who has
45 been employed for one year in connection with the opera-
46 tion of a steam plant, or any person graduated as a me-
47 chanical engineer, chemical engineer or electrical engi-
48 neer from a duly recognized school of technology who has
49 been employed for one year in connection with the op-
50 eration of a steam plant, shall be eligible for examination
51 for a second class engineer's license. To be eligible for
52 examination for a first class engineer's license, a person
53 must have been employed for not less than three years
54 as an engineer in charge of a steam plant or plants hav-
55 ing at least one engine of over one hundred and fifty

56 horse power, or he must have held and used a second
57 class engineer's license in a second class or first class
58 plant for not less than one and one half years.

1 SECTION 3. Said chapter 146 is hereby further
2 amended by striking out section 57, as amended by
3 section 3 of chapter 541 of the acts of 1952, and insert-
4 ing in place thereof the following section: —

5 *Section 57.* Each application for a license as an en-
6 gineer or fireman of a class specified herein or as an op-
7 erator of hoisting machinery not run by steam shall be
8 made upon a blank furnished by the department, signed
9 and sworn to by the applicant, and shall show the total
10 experience of the applicant. Each such application shall
11 be accompanied by an examination fee, as follows: For
12 a first class or second class engineer's license or for a
13 special license, or for a boiler engineer's license, four-
14 teen dollars; for a third class, fourth class or portable
15 class engineer's license or a steam fire engineer's license,
16 six dollars; for a first class or second class fireman's li-
17 cense, four dollars; and for a license for operating hoist-
18 ing machinery not run by steam, six dollars. Each such
19 application shall entitle the applicant to one examination
20 only, except in case of an appeal under section sixty-six;
21 provided, however, that no person shall make applica-
22 tion hereunder for a license of any particular class of-
23 tener than once in ninety days. The fee for an exami-
24 nation on appeal shall be one dollar.

1 SECTION 4. Said chapter 146 is hereby further
2 amended by striking out section 64, as appearing in
3 the Tercentenary Edition, and inserting in place thereof
4 the following section: —

5 *Section 64.* Whoever desires to act as an engineer or
6 fireman shall apply for a license to the inspector of the
7 division for the town where he resides or is employed.
8 The examination shall be uniform throughout the com-
9 monwealth. The applicant shall be given a practical
10 examination, and, if found competent and trustworthy,

11 he shall receive a license graded according to the merits
12 of his examination. An applicant for a first class or sec-
13 ond class engineer's license or for a special license, or for
14 a boiler engineer's license shall be examined by a board
15 consisting of three inspectors of the division, or two in-
16 spectors and the chief, and, if the applicant is employed,
17 one member of said board shall be the department in-
18 spector of boilers for the town where the applicant is em-
19 ployed, and the decision of said board shall be final. An
20 applicant for a license as an engineer of any other class
21 or as a fireman shall be examined by one inspector of the
22 division, from whose decision there shall be an appeal as
23 provided in section sixty-six.

1 SECTION 5. No extra first class fireman's license is-
2 sued prior to the effective date of this act shall be in-
3 validated or affected in any way by the provisions hereof.

