

HOUSE No. 1799

By Mr. Mahan of Leominster (by request), petition of Estella E. Marshall and another for payment from the state treasury of a sum of money to her and to the estate of Henrietta J. Barnaby for confinement in a state hospital. Ways and Means (Joint).

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REQUIRING THE COMMONWEALTH TO PAY A SUM OF MONEY TO ESTELLA E. MARSHALL AND THE ESTATE OF HENRIETTA J. BARNABY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 May this honorable body be fully empowered to generously
2 compensate Miss Estella E. Marshall and her sister, Mrs.
3 Henrietta J. Barnaby (posthumous), for long, inhuman and
4 criminal imprisonment in a state hospital, without right or
5 excuse, and the extreme mental torture, cruelty, abuse (serious
6 physical injury) and semi-starvation resulting therefrom;
7 together with loss of all civil and legal rights.

8 The unlawful and inhuman confiscation of exceedingly valu-
9 able property, — income on which would easily amount to
10 one hundred thousand dollars as of to date, also personal,
11 including heirlooms that can never be replaced, of intrinsic
12 worth to the owners.

13 Most pathetic, excruciating and brutal of it all is the fact that
14 Mrs. Barnaby actually lost her life as the result of serious
15 physical injuries, physical torture, abuse, mental anguish and
16 semi-starvation received during the prolonged period of her
17 confinement.

18 Governor Dewey also authorized the New York Legislature
19 to pay Bertram Campbell one hundred and fifteen thousand
20 dollars for false imprisonment, but his sufferings, disgrace and
21 losses are no comparison to what this state's officials outrage-
22 ously imposed on the heads of two of its highest esteemed
23 Christian citizens, — two innocent, sane, healthy women.