
By Mr. Craven of Boston, petition of James J. Craven, Jr., that prisoners in correctional institutions be permitted to perform volunteer work for the Commonwealth. Public Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO PERMIT VOLUNTARY WORK FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
BY CERTAIN INMATES OF CORRECTICNAL INSTITUTIONS.

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 49 of chapter 127 of the General Laws, as most re-
2 cently amended by section 34 of chapter 770 of the acts of 1955,
3 is hereby amended by adding thereto a new paragraph to read
4 as follows: —

5 *Section 49.* Prisoners in the correctional institutions of the
6 commonwealth, or in any jail or house of correction, may be
7 employed, in the custody of an officer, on any part of the premises
8 of the institution or in the care of public lands, buildings and
9 demolition of said buildings, and any prisoner who escapes from
10 such premises, land or building shall be deemed to have escaped
11 from the institution of which he is an inmate. No prisoner,
12 except as provided in sections eighty-three, eighty-four, eighty-
13 five and eighty-six, shall be employed outside the precincts of the
14 place of his imprisonment doing work of any kind for private
15 persons.

16 The commissioner may establish within the precincts of the
17 institutions of the department of mental and public health and
18 public welfare, with the approval of the commissioner of said
19 departments, facilities for the housing of inmates. He may
20 transfer to such facilities prisoners in the correctional insti-
21 tutions of the commonwealth except those serving a life sen-

22 tence, or a sentence imposed for violation of sections twenty-
23 two, twenty-three and twenty-four of chapter two hundred
24 and sixty-five, and for attempt to commit a crime referred
25 to in said sections. Such prisoners, in the custody of an officer,
26 may be placed to work on the farms on the grounds or in the
27 care, repair or demolition of buildings of such departments,
28 and the commissioner may at any time return such prisoners
29 to the institution from whence removed. Compensation may
30 be paid to inmates for such work in accordance with and as
31 provided for by section forty-eight A of this chapter. Any
32 prisoner who escapes or attempts to escape from any such
33 facility, land or building, or from the custody of the officer
34 thereof while being conveyed to and from, may be pursued
35 and recaptured, and shall be punished by imprisonment in the
36 state prison for not more than ten years or by imprisonment
37 in a jail or house of correction for not more than two and one
38 half years.