
To accompany the petition of the Massachusetts Medical Society, by Robert W. Buck, M. D., for legislation to amend the statute relating to said society. Mercantile Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MEMORANDUM FROM COMMISSIONER OF CORPORATIONS AND TAXATION.

(See section 7 of chapter 3 of the General Laws, as amended by chapter 364 of the Acts of 1937 and section 2A of chapter 549 of the Acts of 1943.)

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives.

The above named petition was transmitted to me by the Clerk of the Senate on December 5, 1957, with a request for a memorandum.

The Massachusetts Medical Society was specially chartered by the General Court in 1781 (Chapter 15 of the Acts of 1781).

Our records indicate that all amendments to the original charter were brought about through the enactment of subsequent special acts of the legislature. For reference, see:

Chapter 49, 1788	Chapter 82, 1859
123, 1802	280, 1897
146, 1830	181, 1921
20, 1850	

The present proposal seeks to revise section 5 of chapter 123 of the acts of 1802, which provides for the establishment of subordinate societies in divers districts within which said societies and meetings could operate, subject to the control of the main society.

Our department sees no objection to the favorable consideration of this proposal by the General Court if, in its wisdom, it sees fit to so entertain the same.

No fee is required from a corporation of this type.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH P. HEALEY,
Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO AMEND THE STATUTE OF THE COMMONWEALTH RELATING TO THE MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY.

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

1 Chapter 123 of the Acts of 1802 is hereby amended by strik-
2 ing out Section 5 and inserting in place thereof the following
3 section:—

4 *Section 5.* The councilors may establish within such districts
5 and portions of this Commonwealth as they shall think expedi-
6 ent, subordinate societies and meetings, to consist of the fellows
7 of the said corporation residing or practicing within such dis-
8 tricts respectively, wherein the communication of cases and ex-
9 periments may be made, and the diffusion of knowledge in medi-
10 cine and surgery may be encouraged and promoted. And the
11 members of such subordinate societies shall be holden to report
12 to the councilors of the general Society all such cases as may
13 be selected for their importance and utility; and the said sub-
14 ordinate societies shall be subject to the regulations of the gen-
15 eral Society, in all matters wherein the general Society shall be
16 concerned; and the said subordinate societies may appoint their
17 own officers, and establish regulations for their particular gov-
18 ernment, not repugnant to the by-laws of the general Society;
19 and shall be capable to purchase, and receive by donation,
20 books, philosophical and chirurgical instruments, or other per-
21 sonal property, and may hold and dispose of the same, exclu-
22 sively of any authority of the general Society.