

SENATE No. 13

To accompany the petition of Richard E. Warner and others, county commissioners, that the use of the photographic or photostatic process be authorized in making public records. Legal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-One.

An Act to authorize the Use of the Photographic or Photostatic Process in making Public Records.

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. Section three of chapter sixty-six of
2 the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting
3 in the second line after the word "paper" the
4 word:—photograph,—and by adding at the end
5 thereof the following new sentence:— All public
6 records may be made by the photographic or
7 photostatic process, provided that such records,
8 if so made, shall be subject to the approval of
9 the supervisor of public records as to their legi-
10 bility and durability,—so as to read as follows:
11 — *Section 3.* The word "record" in this chapter
12 shall mean any written or printed book, paper,
13 photograph, map or plan. All public records
14 other than maps and plans shall be entered or re-
15 corded on paper made of linen rags and new cotton
16 clippings, well sized with animal sizing and well fin-
17 ished, and preference shall be given to paper of

18 American manufacture marked in water line with
19 the name of the manufacturer. All public records
20 may be made by the photographic or photostatic
21 process, provided that such records, if so made, shall
22 be subject to the approval of the supervisor of pub-
23 lic records as to their legibility and durability.

1 SECTION 2. Section four of chapter sixty-six of
2 the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out
3 the said section and inserting in place thereof the
4 following new section: —

5 *Section 4.* No ink shall be used upon any public
6 record except ink furnished by the supervisor of
7 records, and no ribbon, pad or other device used for
8 printing by typewriting machines, or stamping pad,
9 or any ink contained in such ribbon, pad, device or
10 stamping pad, shall be used upon any public record,
11 and no photographic machine or device or chemicals
12 or process employed in connection therewith shall be
13 used for making public records, except such as has
14 been approved by the supervisor of records, who
15 may cancel his approval if he finds that any article
16 so approved is inferior to the standard established
17 by him or if he finds that the process is not carried
18 out in the manner approved by him. Whoever vio-
19 lates this section shall be punished by a fine of not
20 more than fifty dollars.

1 SECTION 3. Section fifteen of chapter thirty-six
2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding
3 at the end thereof the words: — or he may make
4 photographic or photostatic reproductions of such
5 instruments, — so as to read as follows: — *Section 15.*
6 He shall record all instruments upon the pages of
7 the record books in fair and legible handwriting or

8 in print, and in continuous successive lines, and shall
9 note on the record, before attesting the same, all
10 erasures and interlineations and the value of any
11 stamp affixed thereto pursuant to federal law, and
12 the cancellation thereof, or he may make photo-
13 graphic or photostatic reproductions of such instru-
14 ments.

