

SENATE No. 106

To accompany the petition of the Fall River Central Labor Union, by John R. Machado, president, and William S. Conroy that provision be made for the establishment and maintenance of a State hospital for the care of nervous cases. Public Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act providing for the Establishment and Maintenance of a State Hospital for the Care of Nervous Cases.

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. The department of mental dis-
2 eases is hereby directed to establish in such city
3 or town as it may, with the approval of the
4 governor, determine, a state hospital for the
5 care of nervous cases. For such purposes and
6 with like approval the department may acquire
7 by purchase or take by eminent domain under
8 chapter seventy-nine of the General Laws land
9 suitable for a site therefor and erect thereon all
10 necessary buildings, and may furnish and equip
11 the same.

1 SECTION 2. Section five of chapter nineteen
2 of the General Laws, as most recently amended
3 by section two of chapter four hundred and
4 three of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty,
5 is hereby further amended by striking out, in
6 the last line, the word "and" and inserting in
7 place thereof a comma, and by inserting after
8 the word "school", in the same line, the words:
9 — and the hospital for nervous cases, — so as
10 to read as follows: — *Section 5.* The boards of
11 trustees of the following public institutions shall
12 serve in the department: Belchertown state
13 school, Boston psychopathic hospital, Boston
14 state hospital, Danvers state hospital, Fox-
15 borough state hospital, Gardner state colony,
16 Grafton state hospital, Walter E. Fernald state
17 school, Medfield state hospital, Metropolitan
18 state hospital, Monson state hospital, North-
19 ampton state hospital, Taunton state hospital,
20 Westborough state hospital, Worcester state
21 hospital, Wrentham state school and the hos-
22 pital for nervous cases.

1 SECTION 3. Section twenty-five of chapter
2 one hundred and twenty-three of the General
3 Laws, as most recently amended by section three
4 of said chapter four hundred and three, is hereby
5 further amended by inserting after the word
6 "hospital" in the next to the last line the words:
7 —, the hospital for nervous cases, — so as to
8 read as follows: — *Section 25.* The state in-
9 stitutions under the control of the department

10 shall be Worcester state hospital, Taunton state
11 hospital, Northampton state hospital, Danvers
12 state hospital, Grafton state hospital, West-
13 borough state hospital, Foxborough state hos-
14 pital, Medfield state hospital, Monson state
15 hospital, Gardner state colony, Wrentham state
16 school, Boston state hospital, Walter E. Fernald
17 state school, Boston psychopathic hospital, Bel-
18 chertown state school, Metropolitan state hospi-
19 tal, the hospital for nervous cases, and such
20 others as may hereafter be added by authority
21 of law.

1 SECTION 4. The trustees or superintendent
2 of said hospital may receive therein as a boarder
3 and patient any person desirous of submitting
4 himself for observation or treatment and who
5 makes, by himself or a member of his family,
6 or other suitable person, application for admis-
7 sion. No such person shall be detained in said
8 hospital more than three days after having
9 given written notice of his intention or desire
10 to leave the same.

1 SECTION 5. The provisions of chapter one
2 hundred and twenty-three of the General Laws
3 applicable to voluntary patients in the institu-
4 tions under the supervision of the department
5 of mental diseases shall, so far as apt, apply to
6 patients in said hospital for nervous cases.

1 SECTION 6. Of the appointments of trustees
2 of the state hospital for nervous cases which

3 shall be originally made by the governor, with
4 the advice and consent of the council, under
5 authority of this act, in January, nineteen
6 hundred and thirty-three, one shall be for a
7 term of one year, one for a term of two years,
8 one for a term of three years, one for a term of
9 four years, one for a term of five years, one for a
10 term of six years and one for a term of seven
11 years, from the first Wednesday in February,
12 nineteen hundred and thirty-three, subject, how-
13 ever, to the provisions of section six of chapter
14 nineteen of the General Laws.

1 SECTION 7. Until the appointment and quali-
2 fication of trustees as aforesaid,

3 (1) The state hospital for nervous cases shall
4 be directly under the control of the department
5 of mental diseases in accordance with the pro-
6 visions of section three of chapter one hundred
7 and twenty-three;

8 (2) Said department shall have and exercise
9 all the powers and duties in respect to said hos-
10 pital which the trustees of the several state
11 hospitals under the control of the department
12 of mental diseases have and exercise in respect
13 thereto, and, in respect to such hospital, shall be
14 subject to all provisions of law applicable to
15 trustees of such state hospitals; and

16 (3) Said department shall appoint to and
17 may remove from the service of such hospital:
18 (a) A superintendent, who shall be a physician

19 and shall reside at the hospital, and, with the
20 approval of said department, shall appoint and
21 may remove assistant physicians and necessary
22 subordinate officers and other persons; and
23 (b) a treasurer, who shall give bond for the faith-
24 ful performance of his duties.

