

SENATE No. 447

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SENATE, April 26, 1922.

The joint committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the petition (with accompanying bill, Senate, No. 105) of John P. Manning that courts be authorized to exercise a wider discretion in imposing sentences for felony; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 921) of Edward T. Esty that sentences of male convicts to imprisonment for more than three years shall not be executed in any jail or house of correction; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 923) of Edward T. Esty relative to the penalty for breaking and entering in the night time with intent to commit a felony; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 924) of Edward T. Esty relative to the penalty for certain unnatural acts; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1022) of H. Huestis Newton relative to the classification of persons sentenced to jails and houses of correction; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1033) of Warren F. Spalding for legislation to enable persons charged with crime to obtain more prompt hearings; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1035) of Warren F. Spalding for legislation to more accurately define felony, reports the accompanying resolve (Senate, No. 447).

For the committee,

JOHN M. GIBBS.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

RESOLVE

Providing for an Investigation relative to Administration of Criminal Laws.

1 *Resolved*, That a commission consisting of the commis-
2 sioner of correction, a justice of the superior court, a
3 district attorney and a justice of a district or municipal
4 court designated by the governor with the advice and
5 consent of the council, and one other person to be ap-
6 pointed by the governor with the advice and consent of
7 the council, shall sit during the recess of the General
8 Court for the purpose of investigating the advisability of
9 providing places of temporary detention for mental and
10 other examination of persons committed to the state or
11 county penal institutions, the classification of criminals
12 to the end that they may be committed to the proper in-
13 stitutions, the commitment of persons convicted of crimes
14 now classed as felonies to either state or county institu-
15 tions, the increasing and regulating of the penalties for
16 certain crimes, the obtaining of more prompt hearings by
17 persons held for trial in the superior court, the advis-
18 ability and feasibility of clarifying the laws relating
19 to successive and concurrent sentences and to the parol-
20 ing of persons subject to such sentences and such kindred
21 matters as are contained in the following bills of the cur-
22 rent year: Senate bill number one hundred and five,
23 and House bills numbers nine hundred and twenty-one,

24 nine hundred and twenty-three, nine hundred and twenty-
25 four, ten hundred and twenty-two, ten hundred and
26 thirty-three and ten hundred and thirty-five. The com-
27 mission shall consider such other matters as relate to
28 the general imposition of penalties for the commission
29 of crime, the segregation and detention of criminals,
30 the commitment of such persons and such other related
31 matters as it deems fit and proper. It shall make a
32 report of its proceedings hereunder to the General Court
33 not later than the second Wednesday of January nineteen
34 hundred and twenty-three.

