

SENATE No. 312

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SENATE, March 10, 1926.

The Committee on Legal Affairs to whom were referred so much of the Governor's Address (Senate, No. 1) as relates to the elimination of useless oaths and certificates now required to be taken by justices of the peace and notaries public and urging consideration of the recommendations of the Attorney General on this subject; and so much of the report of the Attorney General for the year ending November 30, 1925 (Pub. Doc. No. 12) as relates to the elimination of useless oaths and affidavits, report the accompanying Bill (Senate, No. 312).

For the committee,

J. BRADFORD DAVIS.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act dispensing with the Oath as a Method of
Verifying Certain Written Instruments.

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. Chapter two hundred and sixty-eight
2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by insert-
3 ing after section one the following new section:—
4 *Section 1A.* Except in a judicial proceeding or
5 in a proceeding in a course of justice, no written
6 statement required by law shall be required to be
7 verified by oath or affirmation before a magistrate
8 if it contains or is verified by a written declaration
9 that it is made under the penalties of perjury.
10 Whoever signs and issues such a written statement
11 containing or verified by such a written declara-
12 tion shall be guilty of perjury and subject to the
13 penalties thereof if such statement is wilfully false
14 in a material matter.

1 SECTION 2. The paragraph entitled “Sixth” of
2 section six of chapter four of the General Laws
3 is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof
4 the following:—, unless, in case of a writing re-
5 quired to be sworn to, it is verified under the pro-
6 visions of section one A of chapter two hundred

7 and sixty-eight,—so as to read as follows:— Sixth,
8 Wherever any writing is required to be sworn to
9 or acknowledged, such oath or acknowledgment
10 shall be taken before a justice of the peace, notary
11 public or special commissioner, unless, in case of
12 a writing required to be sworn to, it is verified
13 under the provisions of section one A of chapter
14 two hundred and sixty-eight.

