

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1027

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 15, 1927.

The committee on Bills in the Third Reading, to whom was referred the Bill to limit the time in which claim may be made upon cities and towns for money paid for hospital treatment (House, No. 263, changed), report recommending that the same be amended by the substitution of the accompanying bill (House, No. 1027).

For the committee,

THOMAS R. BATEMAN.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the Collection from the City or Town of Settlement of Claims for Expenses Incurred in Caring for Persons Sick with Diseases Dangerous to the Public Health.

*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 one hundred and eleven of the General Laws,  
2 as amended in section one hundred and sixteen by sec-  
3 tion three of chapter two hundred and forty-one of the  
4 acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-six, is hereby  
5 further amended by striking out said section one hun-  
6 dred and sixteen and inserting in place thereof the  
7 following:—

8 *Section 116.* Reasonable expenses incurred by boards  
9 of health or by the commonwealth in making the pro-  
10 vision required by law for persons infected with small-  
11 pox or other disease dangerous to the public health shall  
12 be paid by such person or his parents if he or they be  
13 able to pay, otherwise by the town where he has a legal  
14 settlement, upon the approval of the bill by the board  
15 of health of such town or by the department of public  
16 welfare; but such expenses shall not be recovered from  
17 a town liable therefor, unless proceedings to recover  
18 the same are commenced within two years after the  
19 cause of action arises. Such settlement shall be deter-  
20 mined by the overseers of the poor, and by the depart-

21 ment of public welfare in cases cared for by the com-  
22 monwealth. If the person has no settlement, such  
23 expenses shall be paid by the commonwealth, upon the  
24 approval of bills therefor by the department of public  
25 welfare. In all cases of persons having settlements, a  
26 written notice shall be sent by the board of health of  
27 the town where the person is sick to the board of health  
28 of the town where such person has a settlement, who  
29 shall forthwith transmit a copy thereof to the overseers  
30 of the poor of the place of settlement; but nothing  
31 shall be recovered for relief furnished more than three  
32 months prior to notice thereof given to the board of  
33 health of the place of settlement. If within one month  
34 after receiving such notice the board of health of the  
35 latter town does not submit a written statement denying  
36 the settlement and stating the reasons therefor, said  
37 town shall be barred from contesting the question of  
38 settlement. In any case liable to be maintained by the  
39 commonwealth when public aid has been rendered to  
40 such sick person, a written notice shall be sent to the  
41 department of public welfare, containing such infor-  
42 mation as will show that the person named therein is  
43 a proper charge to the commonwealth, and reimburse-  
44 ment shall be made for reasonable expenses incurred  
45 within five days next before such notice is mailed,  
46 and thereafter until such sick person is removed under  
47 section twelve of chapter one hundred and twenty-one,  
48 or is able to be so removed without endangering his or  
49 the public health. Reimbursement by the common-  
50 wealth under the provisions hereof shall be subject to  
51 the provisions of section forty-two of chapter one hun-  
52 dred and twenty-one.

