

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1106

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By Mr. Derham of Uxbridge, petition of Edwin G. Norman that the number of grand jurors be reduced. Judiciary (Joint).

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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An Act reducing the Number of Grand Jurors.

*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 seventy-  
2 seven of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
3 striking out, in line four of section one, the word  
4 "twenty-three" and inserting in place thereof the  
5 word:— fifteen, — so as to read as follows:— *Sec-*  
6 *tion 1.* The clerk of the courts for each county,  
7 except Suffolk, shall, not less than seven nor more  
8 than thirty days before the commencement of the  
9 first sitting of the superior court for criminal business  
10 in each year, issue writs of venire facias for fifteen  
11 grand jurors to be returned to that court, who shall  
12 serve until the first regular sitting in the year next  
13 after they have been impanelled and until another  
14 grand jury has been impanelled in their stead. In  
15 counties where sittings of the court are established for  
16 the transaction of criminal business, they shall be  
17 required to attend only at such sittings.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter two hundred and seventy-  
2 seven of the General Laws is further amended by  
3 striking out, in line five of section two A, the word  
4 "twenty-three" and inserting in place thereof the  
5 word:— fifteen, — so as to read as follows:— *Sec-*  
6 *tion 2A.* The clerk of the courts in any county, or in  
7 Suffolk the clerk of the superior court for criminal  
8 business, shall, upon written request of the attorney  
9 general accompanied by a certificate that public  
10 necessity requires such action, signed by the chief  
11 justice of the superior court, issue writs of venire  
12 facias for fifteen grand jurors for service as a special  
13 grand jury to hear, consider and report on such  
14 matters as the attorney general may present. Said  
15 jurors shall serve for a period of six months, unless  
16 sooner discharged by the attorney general or by the  
17 said chief justice, and shall be drawn, summoned and  
18 returned in the same manner, and shall have the same  
19 powers and receive the same compensation, as grand  
20 jurors summoned for service under sections one and  
21 two, and the provisions of sections four to fourteen,  
22 so far as apt, shall apply to such jurors.