

HOUSE No. 608

By Mr. Barry of Springfield, petition of William R. Barry for legislation to provide for the parole of certain prisoners sentenced to the State Prison during the existing war emergency. Public Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Five.

AN ACT PROVIDING IN THE EXISTING WAR EMERGENCY FOR THE PAROLE OF CERTAIN PRISONERS SENTENCED TO THE STATE PRISON.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would
2 tend to defeat its purpose, which is to assist in the
3 successful prosecution of the war, therefore it is
4 hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary
5 for the immediate preservation of the public con-
6 venience.

*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. Section one of chapter two hundred
2 and twenty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and
3 forty-three is hereby amended by striking out, in
4 line eight, the words "two and one-half years" and
5 inserting in place thereof the words: — one and one-
6 half years, — and by striking out, in lines thirteen
7 and fourteen, the words "two and one-half years"

8 and inserting in place thereof the words: — one and
9 one-half years, — so that it will read as follows: — *Sec-*
10 *tion 1.* If it appears to the parole board to be in
11 the public interest and to aid in the successful prosecu-
12 tion of the existing state of war between the United
13 States and certain foreign countries, said board may
14 grant to a prisoner, other than a prisoner serving a
15 life sentence, in the state prison or a prisoner trans-
16 ferred therefrom to the Massachusetts reformatory
17 or the state prison colony who has served one and
18 one-half years of his sentence or sentences if serving
19 concurrent sentences, a special permit to be at liberty
20 during the remainder of his term of sentence, upon
21 such terms and conditions as said board shall prescribe.
22 A prisoner held upon two or more sentences may be
23 eligible for release under this section when he has
24 served one and one-half years of his aggregate
25 sentences.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall be effective only during
2 the continuance of the existing state of war between
3 the United States and any foreign country.