

HOUSE No. 2868

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 26, 1957.

The committee on Public Welfare, to whom was referred so much of the Governor's Address (Senate, No. 1) as relates to a revision of the system of "time-off for good behavior" to provide further "time-off" for prisoners who voluntarily demonstrate efforts at self-rehabilitation through study or other worthwhile pursuits (page 47), report the accompanying bill (House, No. 2868).

For the committee,

SUMNER Z. KAPLAN.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A FURTHER DEDUCTION OF SENTENCE FOR PRISONERS WHOSE GENERAL ATTITUDE DEMONSTRATES AN EFFORT TOWARD REHABILITATION.

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 127 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
2 inserting after section 129 the following section: —
3 *Section 129A.* When in the opinion and upon the recom-
4 mendation of the principal officer of a correctional institution of
5 the commonwealth any prisoner therein, except a prisoner serv-
6 ing a sentence for life, whose labor, study or general attitude
7 towards rehabilitation is such as to demonstrate a genuine
8 effort toward self-improvement, the commissioner, under
9 rules and regulations established by him, may grant, in
10 addition to the deduction of sentence as provided under
11 section one hundred and twenty-nine of chapter one hundred
12 and twenty-seven, a further deduction of not more than four
13 days for each month of thirty days or fraction thereof, during
14 which a prisoner shows such diligence and attitude. Such
15 further deduction shall in the case of a prisoner held under a
16 sentence containing a minimum sentence be added to any
17 deduction of sentence as provided by section one hundred and
18 twenty-nine of this chapter in computing two thirds of the
19 minimum sentence for a release on parole by the parole board
20 as authorized by section one hundred and thirty-three of this
21 chapter.