

HOUSE No. 947

Bill accompanying the petition of Charles F. Rowley for fire protection in stables. Legal Affairs. January 17.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixteen.

AN ACT

Relative to the Occupancy of Stables.

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. Whoever occupies or uses a building in
2 any city of fifty thousand inhabitants or more as a stable
3 for more than six horses or mules, in which there is any
4 fire for the purpose of heating such building or for any
5 other purpose, shall keep at night a suitable person con-
6 stantly in such building or on the immediate premises.
7 But this section shall not apply to buildings where a
8 watchman is employed: *provided*, that the watchman
9 visits the building once each hour during the night, or to
10 buildings on the premises of farmers or dairymen when
11 such buildings are within the limits of cities having fifty
12 thousand or more inhabitants.

1 SECTION 2. In all cellars or basements where horses or
2 mules are kept there shall be an exit from the cellar or
3 basement directly to the outside of the building. If more
4 than ten horses are kept in a cellar or basement, there
5 shall be two such exits, on opposite sides, provided the
6 building and its surroundings make a second exit possible.

1 SECTION 3. Where more than ten horses or mules are
2 kept on the ground floor there shall be two means of exit
3 directly to the outside of the building, provided the
4 building and its surroundings make a second exit possible.

1 SECTION 4. Not more than eight horses or mules shall
2 be kept on the second floor of any building unless there
3 are two means of exit therefrom.

1 SECTION 5. No horses or mules shall be kept on the
2 third floor of any building unless there shall be a fireproof
3 partition running through the middle of the third floor
4 with automatic doors and two exits on opposite sides to
5 the floor below.

1 SECTION 6. All stables constructed from this time
2 onward, when arrangements are made to keep horses on
3 the third floor, shall have two means of exit from the
4 third floor, one of which shall be provided with automatic
5 doors, and shall be to the outside of the building only,
6 and shall be constructed of such fireproof material as shall
7 be satisfactory to the building commissioner or to the
8 officer or board having the authority of a building com-
9 missioner.

1 SECTION 7. The enforcement of this act shall be
2 under the direction of the fire prevention commissioner.

1 · SECTION 8. This act shall not apply to stables
2 equipped with the automatic sprinkler system.

1 SECTION 9. Violation of any provision of this act shall
2 be punished by a fine of not more than two hundred
3 dollars.

1 SECTION 10. This bill shall take effect on the first day
2 of August, nineteen hundred and sixteen.

