
By Mr. Flynn of Malden, petition of John T. Maginnis for legislation to authorize judges of any courts in the Commonwealth to sit in other courts in the event of enemy attack. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE JUDGES OF ANY COURT TO SIT IN OTHER
COURTS IN EVENT OF ENEMY ATTACK.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to
2 defeat its purpose which is to provide for continuity of govern-
3 ment in the judicial branch in event of enemy attack, therefore,
4 it is declared to be an emergency law, effective immediately,
5 in the interest of the public safety.

*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 639 of the acts of 1950, as amended, is hereby further
2 amended by inserting therein the following new section:—
3 *Section 20D.* During a state of emergency declared by the
4 governor under the provisions of section five of this act because
5 of the occurrence of enemy attack, a justice or associate justice
6 or special justice of any court of the commonwealth may sit in
7 any other court of the commonwealth at the written request of
8 the chief justice or presiding justice thereof, or in the absence
9 of either, at the request of the senior justice present, and shall
10 have, and may exercise, while so sitting in such other court, the
11 full power and authority of a justice appointed to said court.

