

By Mr. McGlynn of Medford, petition of John J. McGlynn relative to limiting the number of children who may be detained by the Department of Youth Services in any one facility. Social Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT LIMITING THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO MAY BE DETAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES IN ONE FACILITY.

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 68 of Chapter 119 of the General
2 Laws, as most recently amended by Chapter 838 of the Acts of
3 1969, is hereby amended by striking out the second paragraph
4 and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: —

5 The department of youth services may provide special foster
6 homes, and places of temporary custody commonly referred to
7 as detention homes of the department of youth services for the
8 care, maintenance and safekeeping of such children between
9 seven and seventeen years of age who may be committed by the
10 court to said department under this section; provided, that no
11 more than five such children shall be detained in any such special
12 foster home at any one time; and further provided that no more
13 than 25 such children shall be detained in any such detention
14 home at any one time.

1 SECTION 2. Section 68B of Chapter 119 of the General
2 Laws, as most recently amended by Chapter 838 of the Acts of
3 1968, is hereby amended by striking out said section and
4 inserting in place thereof the following new section: —

5 *Section 68B.* The department of youth services may use or
6 provide special foster homes and places of temporary custody
7 commonly referred to as detention homes of the department of

8 youth services for the care, maintenance and safekeeping of such
9 children between seven and seventeen years of age who may be
10 committed by the court to said department under this section;
11 provided, that no more than five such children shall be detained
12 in any such special foster home at any one time; and further
13 provided that no more than 25 such children shall be detained in
14 any such detention home at any one time. The Commissioner of
15 Youth Services may at his discretion transfer any child thus
16 committed from any foster home or detention home to another
17 such foster home or detention home.