

HOUSE No. 2866

By Mr. Cain of Wilmington, petition of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, Inc., relative to authorizing the commitment by the court of certain chronic alcoholics. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMITMENT BY THE COURT OF CERTAIN CHRONIC ALCOHOLICS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 The 6th paragraph of Section 8 of Chapter 111A, as appearing
2 in Section 1 of Chapter 1076 of the Acts of 1971 is hereby
3 amended by adding the following two sentences: — Any person
4 taken into protective custody under the provisions of this section,
5 four or more times within a calendar year, shall be brought before
6 the district court as a chronic alcoholic in need of professional
7 service, at which time the court may commit such person to a
8 state hospital for treatment for a period not exceeding ninety
9 days, if the court in its discretion finds that the well-being of the
10 individual and the community will be best served by such
11 commitment. Such a proceeding shall be deemed civil in nature.

