

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3880**

By Ms. Bunte of Boston, petition of Doris Bunte and other members of the General Court relative to requiring annual inspection of fire escapes. Public Safety.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

**AN ACT REQUIRING ANNUAL INSPECTION OF FIRE ESCAPES.**

*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 143 of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
2 inserting after section 43 the following section: —

3 *Section 43A.* The owner of any building which is required by  
4 any provision of law to be equipped with fire escapes on the  
5 outside wall of such building shall annually cause said fire escapes  
6 to be inspected by an engineer or a competent mechanic versed in  
7 fire escape construction for the safety of such structure and  
8 accessibility to the ground. Said owner shall upon receipt of  
9 notice that his fire escape is defective, unsafe or lacks accessibility  
10 to the ground within ten days cause the same to be repaired.

11 Whoever violates the provisions of this section, shall be  
12 punished by imprisonment in a jail or house of correction for not  
13 more than two and one half years or by a fine of not more than  
14 five thousand dollars, or both.

