

By Mr. Flaherty of Boston, petition of the Massachusetts Shorthand Reporters Association and Michael F. Flaherty to provide for official stenographers for trials by juries of six. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR OFFICIAL STENOGRAPHERS FOR TRIALS BY JURIES OF SIX.

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 17A of chapter 218 of the General Laws,
2 as appearing in section 1 of chapter 620 of the acts of 1972, is
3 hereby amended by striking out the last paragraph.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter 218 is hereby further amended by
2 inserting after section 27A, the following sections: —

3 *Section 27B.* The justices of the district courts shall appoint,
4 from time to time, such official and additional stenographers for
5 the recording of trials by jury of six as the business of the court may
6 require. Official and additional stenographers shall be sworn
7 officers of the court, removable at the pleasure of the justices. The
8 justices may make regulations not inconsistent with law as to the
9 assignment, duties, service and other matters relative to the official
10 and additional stenographers.

11 *Section 27C.* The presiding justice at any trial by jury of six, in
12 case no stenographer is assigned therefor, or in the case of the
13 illness or absence of an assigned stenographer, may appoint one or
14 more temporary stenographers who shall be sworn and shall,
15 during term of service, have the powers and duties of an official
16 stenographer.

1 SECTION 3. The first sentence of section 91 of chapter 221 of
2 the General Laws, as appearing in section 2 of chapter 492 of the
3 acts of 1972, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "court"

4 in line two, the words: — or the district courts for trials by jury of
5 six.

1 SECTION 4. The provisions of this act shall take effect on July
2 first, nineteen hundred and seventy-eight.