

[Similar Matter Filed During Past Session —
See Senate No. 847 of 1979]

SENATE No. 977

By Mr. Parker, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 977) of John F. Parker, Robert A. Hall, John H. Fitzpatrick and David H. Locke for legislation to permit judges to commit to mental facilities in certain juvenile cases. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

**AN ACT PERMITTING JUDGES TO COMMIT TO MENTAL FACILITIES IN
CERTAIN JUVENILE CASES.**

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 58 of chapter 119 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after the fourth paragraph the follow-
3 ing paragraph: —

4 A judge in a juvenile session may, after due notice and after
5 a hearing, if requested, and upon finding that a juvenile is
6 mentally ill and that the discharge of such person from a facil-
7 ity of the department of mental health would create the likeli-
8 hood of serious harm, order his or her commitment at a facil-
9 ity of the department of mental health for a period of six
10 months. If such a juvenile is not a proper subject for commit-
11 ment to a facility of the said department and the failure to
12 retain such person in strict custody would create a likelihood
13 of serious harm, such person may be committed to Bridge-
14 water state hospital. Further procedure shall be set in para-
15 graph [f] of section 8 of chapter 123.

