

---

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

---

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 22, 1978.

The committee on the Judiciary, to whom were referred so much of the recommendations of the Commissioner of Probation (House, No. 125) as relates to correcting the duties of the Committee on Probation and the Administrative Committee of the District Courts (accompanied by bill, House, No. 136), the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 428) of Charles F. Engdahl relative to further regulating the exhibition of motion pictures for the protection of juveniles, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 440) of Joseph J. Semensi that provision be made for the preservation of testimony in the probate courts, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 441) of Philip L. Shea for legislation to establish the housing court of the county of Middlesex, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 617) of the Boston Police Commissioner and Raymond L. Flynn providing that the discharge and release by law enforcement officers of arrested persons without appearance before a magistrate shall constitute defense in certain actions for false imprisonment, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1115) of Joanne A. Prevost and John F. Melia that municipal employees be authorized to purchase tax foreclosed property at public auction, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2401) of Martin B. Butler that lawyers who represent insurance companies be required to so indicate in their telephone listings and on the doors of their offices, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2815) of John E. Murphy, Jr., and Charles F. Flaherty, Jr., that provision be made for civil legal assistance to indigent persons, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2821) of Max Volterra, Mark E. Lawton and Alan D. Sisitsky that provision be made for the voluntary informal administration of small estates, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2958) of the Massachusetts Shorthand Reporters Association and Michael F. Flaherty for legislation to increase the fees of court stenographers for furnishing transcripts of notes, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2959) of the Massachusetts Shorthand Reporters Association and Michael F. Flaherty for legislation to provide for official

stenographers in the district courts and the Municipal Court of the City of Boston, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2960) of the Massachusetts Shorthand Reporters Association and Michael F. Flaherty to provide for official stenographers for trials by juries of six the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2961) of the Massachusetts Shorthand Reporters Association and Michael F. Flaherty to provide for official stenographers in the Probate Court, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2972) of A. James Whitney for legislation to eliminate an investigation by the Department of Public Welfare in certain adoption cases, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3143) of the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association and Alfred Saggese, Jr., for legislation to repeal the law authorizing counsels to be present at grand jury proceedings, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3718) of Emile Lourin relative to establishing a penalty for aiding or soliciting a person to commit suicide, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3899) of Francis C. Lapointe, Kenneth M. Lemanski and Timothy A. Bassett relative to computer privacy, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4081) of William A. Pickett providing that newspapers, television and radio stations which print or broadcast editorials in favor of any cause or subject-matter shall state whether the newspaper or station has any financial interest in the cause or subject-matter, the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4747) of Donald J. Manning for legislation to further define the crime of larceny, and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5047) of Michael Paul Feeney relative to increasing the penalty for larceny of a motor vehicle, reports recommending that the accompanying order (House, No. 5764) ought to be adopted.

For the committee,

MICHAEL F. FLAHERTY.

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

---

*Ordered*, That the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to sit during the recess of the general court for the purpose of making an investigation and study of the subject matter of current house documents numbered: 136, relative to correcting the duties of the Committee on Probation and the Administrative Committee of the District Courts; 428, relative to further regulating the exhibition of motion pictures for the protection of juveniles; 440, that provision be made for the preservation of testimony in the probate courts; 441, to establish the housing court of the county of Middlesex; 617, providing that the discharge and release by law enforcement officers of arrested persons without appearance before a magistrate shall constitute defense in certain actions for false imprisonment; 1115, that municipal employees be authorized to purchase tax foreclosed property at public auction; 2401, that lawyers who represent insurance companies be required to so indicate in their telephone listings and on the doors of their offices; 2815, that provision be made for civil legal assistance to indigent persons; 2821, that provision be made for the voluntary informal administration of small estates; 2958, to increase the fees of court stenographers for furnishing transcripts of notes; 2959, to provide for official stenographers in the district courts and the Municipal Court of the City of Boston; 2960, to provide for official stenographers for trials by juries of six; 2961, to provide for official stenographers in the Probate Court; 2972, to eliminate an investigation by the Department of Public Welfare in certain adoption cases; 3143, the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association and Alfred Saggese, Jr., for legislation to repeal the law authorizing counsels to be present at grand jury proceedings; 3718, relative to establishing a penalty for aiding or soliciting a person to commit suicide; 3899, relative to computer privacy; 4081, providing that newspapers, television and radio stations which print or broadcast editorials in favor of any cause or subject matter shall state whether the newspaper or station has any financial interest in the cause or subject matter; 4747, to further define the crime of larceny; 5047, relative to increasing the penalty for larceny of a motor vehicle.

Said committee shall be provided with quarters in the state house or elsewhere, may hold hearings, may travel within the commonwealth,



and may expend for clerical and other services and expenses such sums as may be appropriated therefore. Said committee shall report to the general court the results of its investigation and study, and its recommendations, if any together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry such recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the clerk of the senate on or before the last Wednesday of December, nineteen hundred and seventy-eight.