

HOUSE No. 6009

By Mrs. Cochran of Dedham, petition of Deborah R. Cochran for legislation to increase the fees and expenses of medical examiners and associate medical examiners. Health Care.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Two.

AN ACT INCREASING THE FEES AND EXPENSES OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
AND ASSOCIATE MEDICAL EXAMINERS.

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. The last paragraph of section 1B of chapter 38 of
2 the General Laws, as appearing in section 3 of chapter 773 of the
3 acts of 1981, is hereby amended by striking out the seventh sen-
4 tence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:—
5 Members of the panel shall be compensated by the commonwealth
6 for any investigation concerning the body as follows:— four
7 hundred dollars for a medicolegal autopsy; one hundred and fifty
8 dollars for an investigation and view of the body, plus travel
9 expenses at twenty cents per mile.

1 SECTION 2. Section 5 of chapter 38 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out the last sentence, as appearing in
3 section 17 of chapter 941 of the acts of 1977, and inserting in place
4 thereof the following sentence:— Medical examiners and associate
5 medical examiners in other counties shall receive fees as follows:—
6 For a view without an autopsy, seventy-five dollars; for a view with
7 an autopsy, one hundred and fifty dollars; and for travel twenty
8 cents a mile for each mile traveled in the investigation of a death;
9 for attendance as a witness at inquest or as a witness in criminal
10 cases in district courts and in the superior court two hundred

11 dollars for each day of such attendance; and for travel, twenty cents
12 a mile to and from the place where such inquest or court trial is
13 held.

1 SECTION 3. The first paragraph of section 6 of said chapter
2 38., as most recently amended by chapter 391 of the acts of 1979, is
3 hereby further amended by striking out the eleventh, twelfth and
4 thirteenth sentences and inserting in place thereof the following
5 three sentences: — If a medical examiner considers it necessary to
6 have a physician present as a witness at an autopsy, such physician
7 shall receive a fee of twenty-five dollars. Other witnesses, except
8 officers named in section fifty of chapter two hundred and sixty-
9 two, shall be allowed fifteen dollars each. A clerk may be employed
10 to record the results of such a view or autopsy and shall receive not
11 more than fifteen dollars per day therefor.

1 SECTION 4. Section 16 of said chapter 38 is hereby amended
2 by striking out the word “thirty”, inserted by section 11 of chapter
3 941 of the acts of 1977, and inserting in place thereof the word: —
4 forty.