

# HOUSE . . . . No. 709

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Accompanying the petition of Benjamin F. Bourne that the county of Barnstable be authorized to provide additional accommodations in the town of Barnstable for the registry of deeds, registry of probate and probate court of said county. Counties. January 18.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-One.

### AN ACT

To provide for Additional Accommodations for the Registry of Deeds, Registry of Probate and Probate Court of the County of Barnstable.

*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 county commissioners of the county  
2 of Barnstable are hereby authorized to erect an addition  
3 to the court house of said county in the town of Barn-  
4 stable in order to provide suitable accommodations for  
5 the registry of deeds, registry of probate and probate  
6 court of said county or for other county purposes, and  
7 may provide necessary additional equipment therefor or,  
8 if in their opinion the public necessity and convenience  
9 will be better subserved thereby, they may erect in said  
10 town a suitable fireproof building separate from the

11 present courthouse for said purposes and may equip  
12 said building with suitable furnishings and fixtures. In  
13 case said county commissioners determine to erect a new  
14 building as herein provided, they may purchase such land  
15 as may be necessary for said building and grounds adja-  
16 cent thereto or may take the same in fee on behalf of  
17 the county by eminent domain under chapter seventy-  
18 nine of the General Laws. Said commissioners may ex-  
19 pend for the purposes of this act a sum not exceeding  
20 two hundred thousand dollars.

1 SECTION 2. Said commissioners may employ such tech-  
2 nical or professional assistance as is necessary to carry  
3 out the provisions of this act. They shall obtain the  
4 necessary labor and materials for carrying out said pro-  
5 visions by contracts with such persons as they may select.  
6 All such contracts shall be in writing, signed by a major-  
7 ity of the commissioners, and recorded in their records,  
8 and every person or corporation entering into such a  
9 contract with the commissioners shall give them a suit-  
10 able bond or shall deposit with them security for the  
11 faithful performance of the contract satisfactory to them.  
12 No such contract shall be altered or added to, except by  
13 written agreement, signed by a majority of the commis-  
14 sioners and by the contractor and the sureties on his  
15 bond. No contract made in violation of the provisions  
16 of this section shall be valid against said county, and no  
17 payment thereon shall be made by the treasurer of said  
18 county. If any proposed contract involves the payment  
19 of more than eight hundred dollars, it shall not be made  
20 until notice for proposals therefor has been posted in a  
21 conspicuous place in the courthouse of said county for  
22 at least one week and has been advertised at least three  
23 times in a newspaper published in said county and in a

24 newspaper published in the city of Boston. The com-  
25 missioners shall in every case make and file with the  
26 treasurer of said county a certificate under oath of such  
27 publication and posting. All proposals shall be opened  
28 publicly in the presence of a majority of the commis-  
29 sioners, and recorded in their records.

1 SECTION 3. For the purpose of carrying out the pro-  
2 visions of this act said commissioners shall borrow on  
3 behalf of said county such sums as may be determined  
4 by them from time to time to be necessary therefor, but  
5 not to exceed in the aggregate two hundred thousand  
6 dollars, and may issue bonds or notes of said county  
7 therefor. Each authorized issue of bonds or notes shall  
8 constitute a separate loan. Said bonds or notes shall bear  
9 on their face the words, Barnstable County Registry Build-  
10 ing Loan, Act of 1921, shall be payable by such annual pay-  
11 ments, beginning not more than one year after the date  
12 thereof, as will extinguish the loan within twenty years  
13 from its date; and the amount of such annual payment  
14 of the principal of any loan in any year shall not be less  
15 than the amount of the principal of the loan payable in  
16 any subsequent year. Said bonds or notes shall bear in-  
17 terest at such rate as may be determined by said com-  
18 missioners with the approval of the treasurer of said  
19 county, and each bond or note shall be signed by said  
20 treasurer and countersigned by a majority of said com-  
21 missioners. Said commissioners may sell said bonds or  
22 notes at public or private sale, upon such terms and con-  
23 ditions as they may deem proper, but not for less than  
24 their par value, and the proceeds shall be used only for  
25 the purposes specified herein.

1 SECTION 4. The authority granted by this act shall  
2 cease and determine unless the work of constructing said  
3 addition or said building is actually begun within three  
4 years from the enactment hereof; but this provision shall  
5 not affect the validity of any payments made or obliga-  
6 tions incurred prior to the expiration of said period.