

By Mr. Ashton of Fall River, petition of Thomas N. Ashton relative to providing safe designs for structures carrying or sheltering human beings. Mercantile Affairs. Dec. 11, 1925.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

An Act relative to the Approval of Plans and Specifications for Structures carrying or sheltering Human Beings and to the Licensing of Structural Engineers.

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. Chapter one hundred and forty-
2 three of the General Laws is hereby amended
3 by adding at the end thereof the following sec-
4 tions to be numbered: —

5 *Section 89.* All plans and specifications
6 which involve the use of structural steel, iron,
7 plain or reinforced concrete, or wooden trusses,
8 for any bridge, building, viaduct, pier, retain-
9 ing wall or trestle, which is intended to shelter
10 or sustain, either directly or indirectly, pe-
11 destrians, vehicles containing passengers; or to
12 shelter or sustain groups, gatherings, audiences,
13 or congregations of persons; or to shelter or sus-
14 tain factory or office employees; or to shelter
15 or sustain dwelling house inhabitants; or to

16 shelter or sustain for any purpose where
17 human beings enter into any part of the pro-
18 posed structure, shall before the construction
19 of such structure is permitted, be inspected,
20 computed and verified for strength and design
21 and bear the stamped endorsement, and written
22 signature, of a structural engineer who shall be
23 licensed by the commonwealth of Massachu-
24 setts.

25 *Section 90.* A copy of the plans and specifi-
26 cations shall be filed, after proper endorsement
27 by said licensed structural engineer, with the
28 inspector of buildings in the city or town where-
29 in it is proposed to erect the structure, or shall
30 be filed with the city or town clerk when there
31 is no official inspector of buildings. The plans
32 and specifications so filed shall be preserved for
33 at least five years after the completion of the
34 structure.

35 *Section 91.* The provisions of sections eighty-
36 nine and ninety shall not be applicable to struc-
37 tures which now come within the jurisdiction and
38 supervision of any governmental department of
39 the commonwealth, or federal government.

40 *Section 92.* For the purposes of this act ap-
41 plicants for registration as structural engineers
42 shall be subject to examination by the Massa-
43 chusetts civil service commission; excepting
44 that the applicants who have previously passed
45 an examination for the rank of civil engineer,
46 class twenty-seven, grade D or higher grade of

47 the Massachusetts civil service standards, since
48 the restandardization of civil service as of May
49 nineteenth in the year nineteen hundred and
50 nineteen, and who have elected, as part of such
51 examinations, the theory and design of bridges
52 and buildings, shall be registered and licensed
53 upon application without further examination.

54 *Section 93.* Said registration and license
55 shall be effective during the life of the licensee.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect Jan-
2 uary second in the year nineteen hundred and
3 twenty-seven.

