

HOUSE No. 293

By Mr. Thompson of Newton (by request), petition of Armand C. Bang relative to compulsory military drill in the educational institutions of the Commonwealth. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty.

An Act relative to Compulsory Military Drill in the Educational Institutions within the Commonwealth.

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 seventy-one of the General
2 Laws of Massachusetts is hereby amended by striking
3 out section three thereof, reading as follows: "The
4 exercises in the public schools may include calis-
5 thenics, gymnastics and military drill; but no pupil
6 shall be required to take part in any military exer-
7 cise if his parent or guardian is of any religious de-
8 nomination conscientiously opposed to bearing arms,
9 or is himself so opposed, and the school committee is
10 so notified in writing; or if a physician of good
11 standing certifies in writing that in his opinion such
12 exercises would be injurious to the pupil", and sub-
13 stituting in its place the following section: — *Section*
14 *3 (amended)*. The curriculum of a school, college,
15 institute, university, or other educational institution,
16 whether public or private, within the commonwealth

17 of Massachusetts, may include calisthenics, gym-
18 nastics and military drill, but in no case shall any
19 pupil or student be required to take any part in any
20 course of military drill or military science or any
21 other military subject at any time, unless he volun-
22 tarily elects to do so, and, having entered upon such
23 military course he may discontinue same at will;
24 and, in no case shall attendance at any military course
25 constitute a prerequisite for graduation or count as
26 a credit towards a degree in any academic course.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect August
2 first, nineteen hundred and thirty.