

By Mrs. Koplow of Brookline, petition of the New England Camping Assn., Inc., and Freyda P. Koplow relative to the examination and licensing of recreational camps for children. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO LICENSING AND EXAMINATION OF RECREATIONAL OR EDUCATIONAL CAMPS FOR CHILDREN.

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. Section 32A of chapter 140 of the General Laws,
2 as amended, is hereby further amended by inserting after the
3 word "park", in line 4, as appearing in section 3 of chapter 326
4 of the acts of 1950, the words:—, except recreational or edu-
5 cational camps for children required to be licensed under section
6 thirty-two N, — so as to read as follows:— *Section 32A.* No
7 person shall conduct, control, manage or operate, directly or
8 indirectly, any recreational camp, overnight camp or cabin,
9 motel or trailer coach park, except recreational or educational
10 camps for children required to be licensed under section thirty-
11 two N, unless he is the holder of a license granted under the
12 following section.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter 140 is hereby further amended by
2 inserting after section 32L the following nine sections:—

3 *Section 32M. Definition.*— (a) All places of camp character,
4 as the term is commonly understood, which are utilized wholly
5 or in part for recreational or educational purposes and operated
6 for a period of ten days or more during one or more seasons of
7 the year, and which receive the patronage, whether paid or not,
8 of five or more children who are not bona fide personal guests in

9 the private home or private farm of an individual, and any of
10 which children, not accompanied by parent or guardian, is under
11 eighteen years of age. Such patronage may be for recreational
12 purposes solely, or for a combination of recreation and instruc-
13 tion, and may be for profit or under philanthropic or charitable
14 auspices.

15 (b) Any constructed camp operated for ten days or more on
16 a mutual or pro rata basis by the same or different groups, each
17 having five or more such minors.

18 *Section 32N.* No person shall conduct, control, manage or
19 operate directly or indirectly any recreational camps for children
20 unless he is the holder of a license granted under section thirty-
21 two O. Application for a license shall be made in duplicate to
22 the board of health, one copy of which shall be sent by the
23 board of health immediately to the department of public health,
24 and shall be accompanied by plans of the proposed installation.

25 *Section 32O.* Upon receipt of the application prescribed in
26 section thirty-two M, the department shall examine the plans
27 and the site of the proposed camp to determine that the site,
28 buildings, structures, fixtures and facilities are suitable and
29 satisfactory for the operation of a recreational camp in accord-
30 ance with the regulations established by the department under
31 the provisions of section thirty-two S. The board of health and
32 the owner or operator of the proposed camp shall be notified
33 by the department of its findings and recommendations.

34 *Section 32P.* The board of health of any city or town, in each
35 instance after a hearing, reasonable notice of which shall have
36 been published once in a newspaper published in such city or
37 town, and after receipt of written approval by the department
38 of public health, may grant licenses for recreational camps. The
39 license for a recreational camp may be suspended or revoked at
40 any time, after due notice and a hearing, by the board of health
41 of the town or by the department of public health, after con-
42 sultation with the local board of health, upon determination that
43 the camp is a source of danger to the health or safety of its occu-
44 pants or to the public. Violation of the regulations established
45 by the department of public health under the provisions of sec-
46 tion thirty-two S, or the existence of any unapproved conditions
47 which may affect the health and safety of the occupants or the
48 public, shall be cause for suspension of the license.

49 *Section 32Q.* The fee for the original license for a recreational
50 or educational camp shall be ten dollars, and shall be paid to
51 the commonwealth of Massachusetts. The fee for annual re-
52 newal of license shall be five dollars, and shall be paid to the
53 city or town in which the camp is located and licensed. Camps
54 conducted on a non-profit basis shall have all licensing fees
55 waived.

56 *Section 32R.* Application for annual renewal of license shall
57 be made to the board of health in writing at least thirty days
58 prior to the opening of the camp, and shall be accompanied by
59 the fee required. If the board of health is satisfied that the camp
60 will not be a source of danger to the health and safety of its oc-
61 cupants or to the public, a renewal license shall be issued. The
62 camp shall be examined at least once annually during the first
63 fifteen days of the camp season by the board of health.

64 *Section 32S.* The department of public health shall establish
65 and may from time to time amend regulations establishing mini-
66 mum standards of health, sanitation and safety for recreational
67 camps. Such regulations shall become effective and have the
68 force of law upon filing with the secretary of state or at such
69 later date as may be specified by the department. This section
70 shall not be deemed to limit the right of any local board of
71 health to adopt such rules and regulations as, in its opinion, may
72 be necessary for the proper operation of the recreational and
73 educational camps in its city or town; provided, that such rules
74 and regulations shall not be in conflict with the sanitary code
75 adopted by the department under the provisions of this section,
76 except, however, that regulations of the board of health may be
77 more restrictive than those established by the department.

78 *Section 32T.* In addition to the examination provided by sec-
79 tion thirty-two O, the department of public health may make
80 such additional examinations as it deems necessary, or as may
81 be requested by boards of health, camp operators or persons ag-
82 grieved by the manner in which a recreational or educational
83 camp is operated.

84 *Section 32U.* Whoever violates the provisions of the regula-
85 tions established under section thirty-two S, or who operates a
86 recreational camp in violation of the provisions of section thirty-
87 two N, shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars nor
88 more than five hundred dollars.

The first of these is the fact that the population of the country has increased very rapidly since the year 1800. This has been the case in all the civilized countries of the world, and it is the result of a variety of causes. One of the principal causes is the improvement in the arts and manufactures, which has enabled man to produce more than he needs for his own consumption. Another cause is the discovery of new countries, which has opened up new sources of wealth and power. A third cause is the improvement in the means of communication, which has enabled man to travel more easily and more cheaply than ever before. These causes have all acted together to produce the rapid increase in the population of the world.

The second of these is the fact that the population of the world is becoming more and more civilized. This is the result of the same causes which have produced the increase in the population. As the arts and manufactures improve, and as new countries are discovered, and as the means of communication are improved, man becomes more and more civilized. He learns to live in a more orderly and more virtuous manner, and he becomes more and more dependent on the laws of his country. This is the progress of civilization, and it is the result of the same causes which have produced the increase in the population of the world.

The third of these is the fact that the population of the world is becoming more and more united. This is the result of the same causes which have produced the increase in the population and the progress of civilization. As the arts and manufactures improve, and as new countries are discovered, and as the means of communication are improved, man becomes more and more united. He learns to live in a more harmonious and more peaceful manner, and he becomes more and more dependent on the laws of his country. This is the progress of unity, and it is the result of the same causes which have produced the increase in the population of the world.

The fourth of these is the fact that the population of the world is becoming more and more happy. This is the result of the same causes which have produced the increase in the population, the progress of civilization, and the progress of unity. As the arts and manufactures improve, and as new countries are discovered, and as the means of communication are improved, man becomes more and more happy. He learns to live in a more comfortable and more contented manner, and he becomes more and more dependent on the laws of his country. This is the progress of happiness, and it is the result of the same causes which have produced the increase in the population of the world.