

HOUSE . . . . . No. 380.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Jan. 30, 1896.

[Introduced on leave by Mr. UTLEY of Brookline.]

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-six.

AN ACT

To facilitate the Collection of Small Debts for Manual Work  
or Labor Performed.

*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 sixty-seven of  
2 the Public Statutes is hereby amended by adding thereto  
3 a new section to follow section four of said chapter and to  
4 read as follows: In actions of contract, for the recovery  
5 of sums of money, not exceeding twenty dollars each,  
6 for manual work or labor, when such manual work or  
7 labor has been performed by two or more persons, for  
8 a single employer or joint employers, or for a firm or  
9 corporation, all the parties who have performed such  
10 manual work or labor on a specific contract may join in

11 one action against the persons, firm or corporation, for  
12 whom such work or labor was performed. The de-  
13 clarations may include one count only, describing the  
14 several contracts of the complainants when the same con-  
15 tract was made by each, or different counts, when the  
16 same contract was not made by all. The court may  
17 make such order for the trial of the issues as shall in its  
18 opinion tend best to satisfy the demands of justice in the  
19 case, and shall enter several judgments, according to  
20 the several contracts of the complainants, and cause  
21 to issue one or more executions, as the case may require.  
22 Not more than one bill of costs shall be allowed in the  
23 action.

1     **SECT. 2.** This act shall take effect upon its passage.



