

HOUSE No. 904.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Feb. 19, 1896.

The committee on Roads and Bridges, to whom was referred the petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 304) of the mayor of Newton for legislation providing for an apportionment of the assessments of highway betterments, report the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

ARTHUR L. COBURN.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

AN ACT.

Relating to the Apportionment of Assessments for Betterments.

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. If the owner of any real estate upon
2 which an assessment for betterments is laid under pro-
3 visions of law relating to streets and highways at any
4 time before demand made, gives notice to the board
5 making such assessment to apportion the same, said
6 board shall apportion such assessment into such number
7 of equal parts not exceeding ten as said owner shall
8 in said notice state; and shall certify such apportion-
9 ment to the assessors and the assessors shall add one
10 of said parts to the annual tax of said estate for each
11 of the years next ensuing until all parts shall have been
12 so added; and all such assessments remaining unpaid
13 after they become due shall draw interest until payment
14 thereof.

1 SECT. 2. In any case in which such assessments for
2 betterments have been laid before the passage of this act

3 or shall hereafter be laid, and in which the owner of the
4 estate upon which the same are laid shall petition the
5 board making such assessments so to do, said board may
6 in its discretion apportion such assessments into such
7 number of parts not exceeding ten as said owner shall
8 in his said petition state, and shall certify such apportion-
9 ment to the assessors and said assessors shall add one
10 of said parts with interest from the date of apportion-
11 ment to the annual tax of said estate for each of the
12 years next ensuing, until all parts shall have been so
13 added; and all such assessments remaining unpaid after
14 they become due shall draw interest until payment
15 thereof.

1 SECT. 3. All liens for the collection of such assess-
2 ments named in this act shall continue until the expira-
3 tion of two years from the time when the last instalment
4 is committed to the collector and interest shall be added
5 to all such assessments until they are paid: *provided*,
6 that nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent
7 the payment at any time in one payment of any balance
8 of said assessments then remaining unpaid notwith-
9 standing a prior apportionment.

1 SECT. 4. This act shall take effect in any city when
2 accepted by the city council thereof, and in any town
3 when accepted by a majority of the legal voters thereof
4 present and voting thereon at a town meeting called for
5 the purpose.

