

SENATE . . . . . No. 240.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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SENATE, March 15, 1899.

The committee on Bills in the Third Reading, to whom was referred the Senate Bill relative to discharges from the Massachusetts Hospital for Dipsomaniacs and Inebriates (printed as House, No. 645), report recommending that the same be amended by the substituting of the accompanying new draft; and that, when so amended, the bill will be correctly drawn.

For the Committee,

FRED JOY.

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

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### AN ACT

Relative to Discharges from the Massachusetts Hospital for Dipsomaniacs and Inebriates.

*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 eight of chapter four  
2 hundred and fourteen of the acts of the year  
3 eighteen hundred and eighty-nine is hereby  
4 amended by striking out, in the first and second  
5 lines the words "All persons so committed may  
6 be detained in said hospital two years," and in-  
7 serting in place thereof the words, "No person  
8 shall be detained in said hospital more than two  
9 years from the date of his commitment," so as to  
10 read as follows:—

11 *Section 8.* No person shall be detained in said  
12 hospital more than two years from the date of his  
13 commitment; but when it shall appear to the

14 trustees that any person held in said hospital will  
15 not continue to be subject to dipsomania or in-  
16 ebriety, or will be sufficiently provided for by them-  
17 selves or their guardians, relatives or friends, they  
18 may issue to them a permit to be at liberty, upon  
19 such conditions as they deem best, and they  
20 may revoke said permit at any time previous to  
21 its expiration. The violation by the holder of  
22 such permit of any of the terms or conditions of  
23 the same shall of itself make said permit void.

1 SECTION 2. Section two of chapter four hun-  
2 dred and seventy-four of the acts of the year  
3 eighteen hundred and ninety-seven is hereby  
4 amended by striking out all of said section and  
5 inserting in place thereof the following:—

6 *Section 2.* The trustees of said hospital are  
7 hereby authorized to discharge finally any patient  
8 therefrom whenever, in their opinion, he will not  
9 continue to be subject to dipsomania or inebriety,  
10 or whenever he will not be benefited by further  
11 treatment therein.

