

HOUSE No. 481.

[Bill accompanying the petition of George Grime and others for legislation to provide for the care and treatment of indigent persons suffering from phthisis or tuberculosis. Public Charitable Institutions, January 29.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Two.

AN ACT

To authorize the State Board of Charity to provide Support and Treatment for Indigent Persons suffering from Phthisis or Tuberculosis.

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. All indigent persons, without legal
2 settlement, resident in this Commonwealth, who
3 are affected with phthisis or tuberculosis, diseases
4 dangerous to the public health, shall be provided
5 with care and treatment at the expense of the
6 Commonwealth, provided that the bills therefor
7 are approved by the state board of charity.

1 SECTION 2. The Commonwealth shall not be
2 bound so to provide, until there has been served
3 upon the state board of health legal notice having
4 the endorsement of the local board of health or
5 selectmen, together with an affidavit as to settle-
6 ment, residence or habitation, which affidavit shall
7 be subscribed and sworn to before the city clerk,
8 town clerk or registrar, who shall affix thereto the
9 seal of the city or town in which the indigent per-
10 son so affected resides or is found.

1 SECTION 3. When the state board of health
2 receives notice as above provided, it shall further
3 require a written statement or history of the case
4 with the certificate of the attending physician, if
5 any, or in lieu thereof the certificate of any physi-
6 cian employed by the city or town, which certifi-
7 cate shall state the name of the disease. Said
8 certificate shall have attached thereto a report, or
9 copy of report, stating that an examination of sputa
10 or secretions in that particular case was made,
11 and giving the results of such examination. The
12 statements, certificates and reports shall be made
13 separately, and, if possible, by different persons,
14 and shall be subscribed and sworn to before a
15 city clerk, town clerk or registrar, who shall
16 affix thereto the seal of his respective city or
17 town.

1 SECTION 4. When the state board of health is
2 satisfied that sections one, two and three hereof
3 have been complied with, and that the disease

4 named really exists, and that the person or per-
5 sons named in the papers suffer therefrom, it shall
6 order the admission of such persons into such
7 places as the Commonwealth shall provide, after
8 which they shall endorse the notice and papers of
9 the case and forward the same to the state board
10 of charity.

1 SECTION 5. When the state board of charity
2 shall have received and filed the papers as above
3 provided, the Commonwealth shall be liable for the
4 care and treatment of the diseased persons, and
5 not before. No bills shall be paid by the Com-
6 monwealth until they have been approved by the
7 state board of charity.

