

HOUSE No. 753.

[Bill accompanying the petition of Andrew A. Badaracco for legislation to provide for an inquiry into the present method of electrocution. Joint Judiciary. February 3.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Two.

AN ACT

To provide for the Appointment of a Commission to consider the Question of the Execution by the Method of Electrocution as applied to Persons condemned to Death by Process of Law.

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. The governor, by and with the
2 advice and consent of the council, shall appoint a
3 commission to consider the subject of electrical
4 execution of persons condemned to death in
5 Massachusetts. This commission shall consist of
6 three physicians and surgeons and three electrical
7 engineers, whose terms of office shall commence

8 at the time of their appointment and expire on
9 the second Wednesday of March in the year
10 1903. The chief justice of the superior court
11 shall be appointed chairman of the aforesaid
12 commission. Vacancies in the commission shall
13 be filled by the governor, by and with the advice
14 and consent of the council.

1 SECTION 2. Said commission shall forthwith
2 proceed to investigate and consider the general
3 question of putting to death, by process of electro-
4 cution, persons condemned to death within the
5 state of Massachusetts. Said board shall inves-
6 tigate the method of execution of men condemned
7 to death in other states, and shall report to the
8 general court in print on or before the second
9 Wednesday in March, in the year nineteen hun-
10 dred and three. And if any legislation is recom-
11 mended, it shall embody in its report drafts of
12 bills in accordance with such recommendations.

1 SECTION 3. Such board shall receive such
2 compensation, and may incur such expenses for
3 carrying out the provisions of this act, as the
4 governor and council shall approve.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its
2 passage.