

HOUSE No. 803.

[Bill accompanying the petition of Robert Treat Paine, chairman of the tenement house committee of the Twentieth Century Club, for legislation to provide for the appointment of a tenement house commission in the city of Boston. Metropolitan Affairs. February 4.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Two.

AN ACT

To authorize the Appointment of a Tenement House Commission by the Mayor of the City of Boston.

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 mayor of the city of Boston is hereby
2 authorized and empowered to appoint a commission, of
3 which he may be a member, to be known as the tenement
4 house commission. Said commission shall elect a chair-
5 man and appoint a secretary; it may employ such coun-
6 sel, assistants and experts from time to time as it may
7 deem necessary. The total expense of the commission
8 shall not exceed the sum hereinafter authorized to be
9 appropriated.

1 SECTION 2. The duties of said commission shall be
2 to make a careful examination into the tenement houses
3 in the city of Boston; their condition as to the construc-
4 tion, healthfulness, safety, rentals and the effect of tene-
5 ment house life on the health, education, savings and
6 morals of those who live in tenement houses, and all
7 other phases of the so-called tenement house question in
8 said city that can affect the public welfare.

1 SECTION 3. The members of the commission shall
2 receive no compensation for their services, but the ex-
3 penses and disbursements incurred by them in the dis-
4 charge of their duties as said commissioners shall be
5 paid.

1 SECTION 4. Said commission shall make a full report
2 of its work to the mayor, on or before January one, nine-
3 teen hundred and three, with such recommendations as
4 it deems wise, to secure the best possible conditions for
5 tenement house life in said city, and the commission shall
6 cease to exist when such report is made.

1 SECTION 5. The city of Boston in hereby authorized
2 to appropriate a sum, not exceeding two thousand dol-
3 lars, to be expended under the direction of the mayor,
4 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act.

1 SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon its passage.