

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 461.

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Bill accompanying the petition of Alonzo W. Corey for legislation to create a bureau for the identification of criminals. Joint Judiciary, January 23.

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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Five.

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### AN ACT

To create a Bureau for the Identification of Criminals.

*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. A bureau for the identification of  
2 criminals is hereby created, to be conducted in  
3 connection with the department of district police,  
4 for the purpose of collecting photographs and  
5 other information in regard to criminals arrested  
6 for crime in this or any other state or country.  
7 The governor shall appoint a chief or superintend-  
8 ent of said bureau. Said chief or superintendent  
9 shall have a general knowledge of professional  
10 criminals and shall be expert in the several kinds

11 of criminal measurements and descriptions now in  
12 use. Said chief or superintendent shall hold his  
13 office for the term of five years, subject to re-  
14 moval by the governor.

1 SECTION 2. Every keeper of a lock-up, place  
2 of detention or penal institution within the Com-  
3 monwealth shall take a description of every per-  
4 son received by the keeper of such lock-up, place  
5 of detention or penal institution, which shall in-  
6 clude in such description the finger prints of such  
7 persons received; said prints to be taken and  
8 classified under the system known as the E. R.  
9 Henry system. The said cities, town and penal  
10 institutions shall furnish the said bureau with the  
11 name and description of such person, including a  
12 copy of the finger impression as well as the Ber-  
13 tillon measurements (where that system is used)  
14 and photograph.

1 SECTION 3. The said bureau shall as far as  
2 possible keep a record of the whereabouts of per-  
3 sons released from penal institutions, committed  
4 thereto for felonies, larcenies and assaults of a  
5 dangerous character, until such time as the board  
6 of prison commissioners may determine that the  
7 conduct of such persons released warrants a dis-  
8 continuance of the same.

1 SECTION 4. The chief of said bureau for the  
2 identification of criminals shall furnish to the chief  
3 of any local police department all information in

4 his possession in regard to any criminal when re-  
5 quested.

1 SECTION 5. The sergeant-at-arms shall set  
2 apart and furnish a room in the state house for  
3 the use of the bureau for the identification of  
4 criminals.

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

