

SENATE No. 47.

To accompany the petition of T. A. Jagger, Jr., for legislation to provide for the preparation of a state geological and economic atlas. Harbors and Public Lands.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eight.

AN ACT

To provide for the Preparation and Publication of a State Geological and Economic Atlas.

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 publication is hereby authorized of a
2 state geological and economic atlas, to be prepared under
3 the direction of the harbor and land commission; said
4 commission shall have general charge of the administra-
5 tion of funds appropriated for said atlas; the immediate
6 superintendence of the work shall be in charge of a
7 geologist appointed by the governor for a term of three
8 years, to be known as the state cartographer; the com-
9 mission shall have power to appoint such assistants and
10 employees as said cartographer may deem necessary;

11 and the commission shall determine the compensation
12 of all persons employed in the preparation of said atlas,
13 and may remove them at pleasure.

1 SECTION 2. The preparation of the atlas shall have
2 for its objects:—

3 First. An examination of the geological formations
4 of the Commonwealth, with special reference to their
5 economic products, viz., building stones, gravel, brick
6 clays, sand, road metal, minerals, fuels, limestone, etc.

7 Second. An examination of the physical features of
8 the Commonwealth with reference to their practical bear-
9 ing upon the occupations of the people, viz., water supply,
10 swamps which may be reclaimed, coast lines in process
11 of change, etc.

12 Third. The publication from time to time of geologi-
13 cal and economic maps in color to illustrate the resources
14 of the Commonwealth, accompanied by illustrated re-
15 ports which shall embrace both general and detailed de-
16 scriptions of the geology and natural products.

17 Fourth. The improvement, to such extent as may be
18 possible, of existing topographical maps of the Common-
19 wealth by co-operation with the United States geological
20 survey, or otherwise.

1 SECTION 3. The maps and reports of the atlas, with
2 proper illustrations, shall be printed as the commission
3 may direct, and the same shall be distributed or sold by
4 the commission as the interests of the Commonwealth
5 and of science demand; and all moneys obtained by the
6 sale of the reports shall be paid into the treasury of the
7 Commonwealth.

1 SECTION 4. The state cartographer shall organize such
2 surveys as may be necessary to bring to completion

3 promptly the maps and reports of the atlas; he shall
4 utilize all existing sources of information; and he may
5 invite co-operation on the part of skilled professional
6 geologists employed in colleges or elsewhere.

1 SECTION 5. All material collected shall be deposited
2 in suitable laboratories, and after having served the pur-
3 poses of the state cartographer, be retained or distributed
4 in such manner as to be of the greatest advantage to the
5 educational interests of the Commonwealth.

1 SECTION 6. The sum of ten thousand dollars annu-
2 ally, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby
3 appropriated out of any funds in the treasury not other-
4 wise appropriated, for the purpose of carrying out the
5 provisions of this act.

1 SECTION 7. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

