

HOUSE No. 203

Bill accompanying the petition of John Weaver Sherman and others for legislation to allow peaceful communications with applicants for positions during strikes, lockouts and labor disputes. Labor. January 9.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eleven.

AN ACT

To allow Peaceful Communications with Applicants for Positions during Strikes, Lockouts and Labor Disputes.

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. In case that a dispute arising between an
2 employer and his employees results in a strike or a lock-
3 out it shall be the duty of the chief of police or any
4 officer acting in the capacity of chief of police in the city
5 or town where the strike or lockout occurs, by a confer-
6 ence with the leaders of the strikers and the employer
7 involved to ascertain the number of men who have gone
8 out upon a strike or who have been locked out.

1 SECTION 2. It shall be lawful for men on strike or
2 for men who have been locked out, at a meeting called

3 for the purpose, to elect by ballot representatives, who
4 shall be permitted to walk upon the public streets and
5 ways in the vicinity of the place of employment or in
6 any other place to which said representatives have law-
7 ful access, and in a peaceful manner to converse with
8 persons intending to go to such employer for work, for
9 the purpose of informing such persons of actual condi-
10 tions, facts and circumstances in order to induce them
11 not to enter into, or, if already employed, not to con-
12 tinue in the service of said employer. Nothing in this
13 act shall be construed to permit any person or persons to
14 obstruct travel upon or over any public street or way.

1 SECTION 3. The number of representatives above
2 designated shall not exceed one for every twenty
3 strikers: *provided*, that if the total number as recorded
4 by the chief of police gives an even number of repre-
5 sentatives with a fraction over, the larger fraction of
6 twenty shall be entitled to one representative; and
7 *provided, further*, that if the whole number of strikers is
8 less than twenty said strikers shall be entitled to one
9 representative.

1 SECTION 4. Only one set of representatives shall be
2 elected during any one strike or lockout: *provided*,
3 *only*, that in case of death or physical or mental dis-
4 ability the chief of police or any officer acting in the
5 capacity of chief of police of the city or town where the
6 strike or lockout occurs, shall issue a permit to the men
7 on strike or those locked out to fill the vacancy so
8 occasioned.

1 SECTION 5. The chairman and secretary of the
2 meeting at which said representatives are elected shall

3 immediately furnish each of said representatives with
4 proper credentials, signed by the chairman and secretary
5 of said meeting, certifying their election as such repre-
6 sentatives, and designating them as representatives for
7 peaceful communication. Said representatives shall
8 within twenty-four hours after the election present said
9 credentials to the chief of police or any officer acting in
10 the capacity of chief of police of the city or town where
11 the strike occurs, and said chief or officer shall record
12 the names and places of residence of said representatives
13 and shall countersign said credentials. Said representa-
14 tives shall at all times when engaged in said peaceful
15 communication bear upon their person said credentials.

1 SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon its pas-
2 sage.

