

HOUSE No. 1286

Bill accompanying the petition of the Massachusetts Bankers Association for legislation to provide for punishing persons making or using false statements to obtain property on credit. Joint Judiciary. January 15.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirteen.

AN ACT

To punish the Making or Use of False Statements to Obtain Property or Credit.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Any person (1) who shall knowingly make or cause to be
2 made, either directly or indirectly or through any agency
3 whatsoever, any false statement in writing, with intent
4 that it shall be relied upon, respecting the financial con-
5 dition, or means or ability to pay, of himself, or any
6 other person, firm or corporation, in whom he is inter-
7 ested, or for whom he is acting, for the purpose of pro-
8 curing in any form whatsoever, either the delivery of
9 personal property, the payment of cash, the making of a
10 loan or credit, the extension of a credit, the discount of

11 an account receivable, or the making, acceptance, dis-
12 count, sale or endorsement of a bill of exchange, or prom-
13 issory note, for the benefit of either himself or of such
14 person, firm or corporation; or (2) who, knowing that
15 a false statement in writing has been made, respecting
16 the financial condition or means or ability to pay, of
17 himself, or such person, firm or corporation in which he
18 is interested, or of whom he is acting, procures, upon the
19 faith thereof, for the benefit either of himself, or of such
20 person, firm or corporation, either or any of the things
21 of benefit mentioned in the first subdivision of this sec-
22 tion; or (3) who, knowing that a statement in writing
23 has been made, respecting the financial condition or
24 means or ability to pay of himself or such person, firm or
25 corporation, in which he is interested, or for whom he
26 is acting, represents on a later day, either orally or in
27 writing, that such statement theretofore made, if then
28 again made on said day, would be then true, when in
29 fact, said statement if then made would be false, and
30 procures upon the faith thereof, for the benefit either of
31 himself or of such person, firm or corporation, either or
32 any of the things of benefit mentioned in the first sub-
33 division of this section; shall be punished by imprison-
34 ment in the state prison or jail for not more than five
35 years, or by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars,
36 or both such fine and imprisonment.