

HOUSE No. 244

Bill accompanying the petition of Walter W. Reagan relative to the maintenance of water-closets in tenement houses in cities. Metropolitan Affairs. January 12.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fourteen.

AN ACT

Relative to the Construction and Maintenance of Water-closets in Tenement Houses in Cities.

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. Section thirty-one of chapter seven hun-
2 dred and eighty-six, Part II, of the acts of the year
3 nineteen hundred and thirteen is hereby amended by
4 striking out the words "hereafter erected", in line one,
5 and also by striking out the words "hereafter placed",
6 in line eighteen, — so as to read as follows:— *Section*
7 *31.* In every tenement house there shall be within each
8 apartment a separate water-closet, located in a bathroom
9 or in a separate compartment: *provided*, that where there
10 are apartments of but one or two rooms there shall be at
11 least one water-closet for every two such apartments, and
12 such water-closet shall not open into any apartment but

13 shall be accessible through a public hall, and the door
14 thereof shall be provided with lock and keys, and such
15 compartment and water-closet shall comply in all other
16 respects with the provisions of this act. Said compart-
17 ment shall be not less than three feet wide, and shall be
18 enclosed with brick, concrete, stone, tiled or plastered
19 partitions which shall extend to the ceiling. No wooden
20 sheathing or wainscotting shall be permitted. Every
21 such compartment shall have a window opening directly
22 upon the street or upon a yard or court of the minimum
23 size prescribed by this act. Every water-closet compart-
24 ment in any tenement house shall be provided with
25 proper means of lighting the same at night. The floor of
26 every such water-closet compartment shall be made water-
27 proof with asphalt, tile, stone or some other non-absorb-
28 ing waterproof material; and such waterproofing shall
29 extend at least six inches above the floor so that the floor
30 can be washed or flushed out without leaking. When the
31 water-closet fixture is located in a bathroom the floor
32 directly beneath the fixture and extending at least one
33 foot beyond it in each direction shall be waterproofed
34 as above provided. No drip trays shall be permitted.
35 No water-closet fixtures shall be enclosed with any wood-
36 work. No water-closet shall be placed out of doors nor
37 in the cellar of any tenement house, except as provided
38 in section twenty-six or as an appurtenance to an engine
39 or boiler room or laundry and then only in case such
40 cellar closet is lighted and ventilated as required herein
41 for a basement room.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on the first day
2 of _____ in the year _____ .