

HOUSE No. 1374

Bill accompanying the petition of the Massachusetts Civil Alliance relative to the granting of permits to prisoners to be at liberty from the State Prison when they have served their minimum term of sentence. Social Welfare. January 21.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fourteen.

AN ACT

Relative to Permits to be at Liberty from the State Prison.

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

1 Chapter two hundred and twenty-five of section one
2 hundred and fifteen is hereby amended by striking out
3 in the fifth line the word "shall", and inserting in place
4 thereof the word:— may,— and by striking out in the
5 thirteenth line the word "shall", and inserting in place
6 thereof the word:— may,— so as to read as follows:—
7 *Section 115.* If the record of a prisoner who was sen-
8 tenced to the state prison for a crime committed on or
9 after the first day of January in the year eighteen hun-
10 dred and ninety-six shows that he has faithfully observed
11 all the rules of the prison and has not been subjected

12 to punishment, the commissioners may, upon the ex-
13 piration of his minimum term of sentence, issue to him
14 a permit to be at liberty therefrom during the unex-
15 pired portion of the maximum term of his sentence,
16 upon such terms and conditions as they shall prescribe.
17 If the record shows that he has violated the rules of
18 the prison, he may be given a like permit at such time
19 after the expiration of the minimum term of his sentence
20 as the commissioners shall determine. If the prisoner
21 is held in the prison upon two or more sentences, he
22 may be entitled to receive such permit when he has
23 served a term equal to the aggregate of the minimum
24 terms of the several sentences, and he shall be subject to
25 all the provisions of this section until the expiration
26 of a term equal to the aggregate of the maximum terms
27 of said sentences.