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By Mr. Sutherland of Boston, petition of Edwin A. Hall for legislation to regulate and establish the limitation of criminal prosecutions in the courts. The Judiciary (Joint). Jan. 21.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-Five.

An Act to regulate and establish the Limitation of Criminal Prosecutions.

*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 sixty-three of chapter two hundred and  
2 seventy-seven of the General Laws is hereby  
3 amended by striking out the first clause in the sec-  
4 ond sentence of said section, and substituting there-  
5 for, the following:— An indictment for any other  
6 crime punishable by imprisonment in the state  
7 prison, shall be found and filed within eight years  
8 after the crime has been committed; an indictment  
9 for any other crime punishable by fine or imprison-  
10 ment in the house of correction or by both such fine  
11 and imprisonment, shall be found and filed within  
12 four years after the crime has been committed, — so  
13 as to read as follows:— *Section 63.* An indict-  
14 ment for murder may be found at any time after  
15 the death of the person alleged to have been mur-  
16 dered. An indictment for any other crime punish-  
17 able by imprisonment in the state prison, shall be  
18 found and filed within eight years after the crime  
19 has been committed; an indictment for any other

20 crime punishable by fine or imprisonment in the  
21 house of correction or by both such fine and im-  
22 prisonment, shall be found and filed within four  
23 years after the crime has been committed; but any  
24 period during which the defendant is not usually  
25 and publicly resident within the commonwealth,  
26 shall be excluded in determining the time limited.



