

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1933

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At the request of Mr. Sherman of Somerville, so much of the report of the special commission established to investigate the activities within this Commonwealth of Communistic, Fascist, Nazi and other organizations subversive to our American form of government (House, No. 2100 of 1938) as relates to prohibiting persons to advocate the use of force or violence to effect political or economic changes, was taken from the files of the preceding year, in compliance with a request of members of the commission. Legal Affairs.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Nine.

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AN ACT PROHIBITING PERSONS TO ADVOCATE THE USE OF FORCE OR VIOLENCE TO EFFECT POLITICAL OR ECONOMIC CHANGES.

*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 sixty-four of the General  
2 Laws, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, is  
3 hereby amended by striking out section eleven and  
4 inserting in place thereof the following: —  
5 *Section 11.* Any person who shall by speech or by  
6 exhibition, distribution or promulgation of any written  
7 or printed document, paper, or pictorial representa-  
8 tion, advocate, advise, counsel or incite, assault upon  
9 any public official or the killing of any person or the  
10 unlawful destruction of real or personal property or

11 the overthrow by force or violence of the government  
12 of the commonwealth or of the United States, and  
13 any person who shall by speech, or by exhibition,  
14 distribution, or promulgation of any written or printed  
15 document, paper or pictorial representation, advocate,  
16 teach, advise or counsel the use of force or violence  
17 in effecting any change in the constitution or laws of  
18 the commonwealth or of the United States or in  
19 effecting any change in the economic condition of any  
20 person or class of persons, shall be punished by a fine  
21 of not more than one thousand dollars or by imprison-  
22 ment for not more than three years, or both, provided  
23 that this section shall not be construed as reducing the  
24 penalty now imposed for the violation of any law.