

By Mr. Creedon of Brockton, petition of Robert S. Creedon, Jr., and H. James Shea, Jr., for legislation to establish certain standards for the dating of perishable goods. Commerce and Labor.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy.**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING CERTAIN STANDARDS FOR THE DATING OF PERISHABLE GOODS.**

*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. For the purpose of this act perishable goods shall  
2 include but shall not be limited to: meat, fish, poultry, eggs,  
3 dairy goods, fresh fruit, vegetables, and bakery products.

1 SECTION 2. Life time of the goods shall be defined as: that  
2 period from the time the goods are produced or manufactured to  
3 the date of spoilage.

1 SECTION 3. The life time of each good shall be a reasonable  
2 time as established by the Bureau of Weights and Measures.

1 SECTION 4. For the purposes of this act sale time shall be  
2 defined as the length of time the good shall be available for sale  
3 to the consuming public.

1 SECTION 5. This sale time shall be determined by the bureau  
2 of weights and measures, but shall not exceed eighty per cent of  
3 the life time of the goods.

1 SECTION 6. Every perishable good within the meaning of this  
2 act shall be dated in a conspicuous place and manner as de-  
3 termined by the bureau of weights and measures.

1 SECTION 7. For the purpose of this act, dating shall be  
2 defined as the listing of the last day of the sale time, and shall be  
3 specified by month and day of month and year.

1 SECTION 8. Manufacturer or packager shall indicate the day  
2 of manufacture or packaging on all manufacturer's or packager's  
3 bulk unit quantity.

1 SECTION 9. The retailer shall indicate the last day of the sale  
2 time as specified in sections five, six, and seven.

1 SECTION 10. Any violation of this act shall be deemed an  
2 unfair and deceptive trade practice and shall entail the penalties  
3 provided for by chapter ninety-three A, section two of the  
4 General Laws.

1 SECTION 11. Any violation of this act shall also allow a civil  
2 recovery in excess of one hundred dollars and not to exceed  
3 five hundred dollars.