

By Mr. Grimaldi of Springfield, petition of James L. Grimaldi relative to increasing the maximum amount of a claim which may be determined under the small claims procedure in district courts. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy.

AN ACT INCREASING THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF A CLAIM WHICH MAY BE DETERMINED UNDER THE SMALL CLAIMS PROCEDURE IN DISTRICT COURTS.

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. Chapter 218 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by striking out section 21, as most recently amended
3 by section 1 of chapter 21 of the acts of 1967, and inserting in
4 place thereof the following section:—

5 *Section 21.* The chief justice of the district courts shall make
6 uniform rules applicable to all the district courts except the
7 municipal court of the city of Boston, and the chief justice of
8 the municipal court of the city of Boston shall make rules for
9 said court, providing for a simple, informal and inexpensive pro-
10 cedure, hereinafter called the procedure, for the determination,
11 according to the rules of substantive law, of claims in the nature
12 of contract or tort, other than slander and libel, in which the
13 plaintiff does not claim as debt or damages more than five hun-
14 dred dollars, and for a review of judgments upon such claims
15 when justice so requires. The procedure shall not be exclusive,
16 but shall be alternative to the formal procedure for causes begun
17 by writ. Actions under this section and sections twenty-two to
18 twenty-five, inclusive, shall be brought in the judicial district
19 where the defendant lives or has his usual place of business.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on October first, nine-
2 teen hundred and seventy.

By the House of Representatives, passed July 1, 1908.

The Constitution of the United States

Article I, Section 2, Clause 3

1. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors in that State.

2. No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and seven Years shall have elapsed since the Date of his Emigration into the United States.

3. Representatives and Electors may be chosen by the People of the several States, in such Manner as the Legislature of each State may direct.

4. The Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors in that State, and shall be chosen in such Manner as the Legislature of each State may direct.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect on October first, 1908.