

HOUSE No. 5424

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 28, 1970.

The committee on Bills in the Third Reading, to whom was referred the Bill providing that probation officers shall furnish trial judges reports of the financial status of criminal defendants prior to the assignments of a public defender (House, No. 3688), report recommending that the same be amended by the substitution of the accompanying bill (House, No. 5424).

For the committee,

RAYMOND M. LAFONTAINE.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy.

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT PROBATION OFFICERS SHALL FURNISH TRIAL JUDGES REPORTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS PRIOR TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF A PUBLIC DEFENDER.

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

1 The second paragraph of section 34D of chapter 221 of the
2 General Laws, as appearing in section 1 of chapter 366 of the
3 acts of 1962, is hereby amended by adding the following sen-
4 tence: — Before the trial judge assigns counsel the probation
5 officer shall prepare and furnish him with a written report
6 containing his opinion as to the defendants ability to pay for
7 counsel.