

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1041**

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By Mr. Parker, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1041) of John F. Parker, Robert A. Hall and David H. Locke for legislation to provide for the preparation of a summary relative to each favorable report on legislation filed by a joint standing committee giving an explanation of the bill and the substantive reasons for the recommendation and for the keeping of minutes by all legislative committees. Rules (Joint).

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-eight.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PREPARATION OF A SUMMARY RELATIVE TO EACH FAVORABLE REPORT ON LEGISLATION FILED BY A JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE GIVING AN EXPLANATION OF THE BILL AND THE SUBSTANTIVE REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR THE KEEPING OF MINUTES BY ALL JOINT STANDING LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES AND THE HOUSE AND SENATE COMMITTEES ON WAYS AND MEANS.

*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 3 of the General Laws is hereby amended by in-
- 2 serting after Section 29 the following new sections: —
- 3 *Section 29A.* When a favorable report is made upon a pe-
- 4 tition by a joint standing committee, a summary, signed by
- 5 the committee chairman, shall be prepared and kept on file
- 6 as a public record by the committee. Said summary shall pro-
- 7 vide in brief a) an explanation of the bill and b) the sub-
- 8 stantive reasons for the recommendation of the committee.
- 9 Upon prorogation, such summaries shall be deposited in the
- 10 state library.
- 11 *Section 29B.* Minutes shall be kept of all hearings before
- 12 joint standing committees and the house and senate commit-
- 13 tees on Ways and Means. Said minutes shall include, but not
- 14 be limited to, bill number, title, names and relevant affiliations
- 15 of those speaking for and against, and a brief summary of
- 16 their arguments. Such minutes shall be kept on file as a pub-
- 17 lic record by the committee. Upon prorogation, such min-
- 18 utes shall be deposited in the state library.

