

# SENATE . . . . . No. 1640

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By Mr. Parker, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1640) of John F. Parker for legislation to permit judges to commit to mental facilities in certain juvenile cases. The Judiciary.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-two.

### AN ACT PERMITTING JUDGES TO COMMIT TO MENTAL FACILITIES IN CERTAIN JUVENILE CASES.

*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 58 of chapter 119 of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by inserting after the fourth paragraph the follow-  
3 ing paragraph: —

4 A judge in a juvenile session may, after due notice and after  
5 a hearing, if requested, and upon finding that a juvenile is  
6 mentally ill and that the discharge of such person from a facil-  
7 ity of the department of mental health would create the likeli-  
8 hood of serious harm, order his or her commitment at a facil-  
9 ity of the department of mental health for a period of six  
10 months. If such juvenile is not a proper subject for commit-  
11 ment to a facility of the said department and the failure to  
12 retain such person in strict custody would create a likelihood  
13 of serious harm, such person may be committed to Bridge-  
14 water state hospital. Further procedure shall be set in para-  
15 graph [f] of section 8 of chapter 123.

