

By Mr. Brett of Quincy, petition of Joseph E. Brett for legislation to provide that parents shall be liable for damages resulting from certain acts of wilful misconduct by their minor children. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Nine.

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT PARENTS SHALL BE LIABLE FOR DAMAGES RESULTING FROM CERTAIN ACTS OF WILFUL MISCONDUCT BY THEIR MINOR CHILDREN.

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 231 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
2 inserting after section 85F the following section:—

3 *Section 85G.* Any act of wilful misconduct of a minor which
4 results in injury or death to another person or in any injury
5 to the property of another shall be imputed to the parent shaving
6 custody or control of the minor for all purposes of civil damages,
7 and such parents having custody or control shall be jointly
8 and severally liable with such minor for any damages resulting
9 from such wilful misconduct.

10 The joint and several liability of one or both parents having
11 custody or control of a minor under this section shall not exceed
12 five hundred dollars for each tort of the minor, and in the case
13 of injury to a person, such imputed liability shall be further
14 limited to medical, dental and hospital expenses incurred by
15 such injured person, not to exceed five hundred dollars.

The first of these, passed on 17th March 1891, was for the purpose of providing for the better regulation of the trade in spirits, and the second, passed on 21st March 1891, was for the purpose of providing for the better regulation of the trade in wine.

The Commencement of the Act

In the Year 1891, the Act was passed, and the following

It is provided that the Act shall be in force from the first day of January 1892, and that the provisions of the Act shall be deemed to have taken effect from that date.

It is further provided that the Act shall be deemed to have taken effect from the first day of January 1892, and that the provisions of the Act shall be deemed to have taken effect from that date.

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