

By Messrs. LeBlanc of New Bedford and Gaudette of New Bedford, petition of Donald R. Gaudette and J. Louis LeBlanc for the establishment of a semi-annual Massachusetts sweepstakes drawing to be conducted by the State Treasurer, providing for the sale of tickets thereunder and the distribution of proceeds thereof. Ways and Means (joint).

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SEMI-ANNUAL MASSACHUSETTS SWEEPSTAKES DRAWING TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE STATE TREASURER, PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF TICKETS THEREUNDER AND PROVIDING FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROCEEDS THEREOF.

*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 General Laws are hereby amended by inserting after 2 chapter 128B the following chapter:—

3 CHAPTER 128C.

4 MASSACHUSETTS SWEEPSTAKES.

5 *Section 1.* The state treasurer shall conduct a semi-annual  
6 or annual drawing to be known as the "Massachusetts Sweep-  
7 stakes Drawing" under such plans, rules and regulations as  
8 he may adopt, subject to approval of the Massachusetts sweep-  
9 stakes drawing commission. The sweepstakes tickets shall be  
10 sold for three dollars each, all year round, by present bonded  
11 employees of said state treasurer's office and by the present  
12 bonded employees at the offices of the county treasurers, at the  
13 three hundred and fifty-one city and town treasurers' offices  
14 and at Logan International Airport at East Boston. Sweep-  
15 stakes tickets could also be sold by present bonded employees  
16 of our four hundred and twenty-eight state-chartered banks  
17 if so authorized by the state treasurer.

18 One half of the proceeds would be used towards amortiza-  
19 tion of state's bonded indebtedness and for support of state

20 hospitals. The remaining half of the sweepstakes sales pro-  
21 ceeds would be distributed among the thousands of winners  
22 as cash prizes which would be exempt from state income taxes.

23 The three-dollar Massachusetts sweepstakes tickets may be  
24 legally sold in any quantity to any person or persons over  
25 twenty-one years of age from any of our fifty states or from  
26 any country in the world who would present himself or herself  
27 during working hours at any of the seven hundred and eighty-  
28 one aforesaid treasurers' offices or banks in Massachusetts, or  
29 at Logan International Airport in East Boston.

30 The Massachusetts sweepstakes drawing shall be held in  
31 public on Independence Day, July fourth, of each year, and at  
32 some other date designated by the Massachusetts sweepstakes  
33 drawing commission. The drawings could be held at historic  
34 Faneuil Hall, Boston, the "Cradle of Liberty" which was re-  
35 built entirely through funds derived from a lottery legalized  
36 by the Massachusetts legislature after it had been completely  
37 destroyed by fire in seventeen hundred and sixty-five.

38 *Section 2.* Whoever, other than a state-chartered bank or a  
39 state, county, city or town treasurers' office, or designated  
40 agent at the Logan International Airport, sells said tickets,  
41 or whoever counterfeits Massachusetts sweepstakes drawing  
42 tickets, or whoever is found guilty of illegally tampering in  
43 any manner in the honest and legal conduct of an annual  
44 Massachusetts sweepstakes drawing, shall be punished by a  
45 compulsory jail sentence of not less than one year on their  
46 first conviction with an increased jail sentence on any and  
47 every additional conviction.

48 *Section 3.* There shall be a state commission consisting of  
49 three persons to be known as the "Massachusetts Sweepstakes  
50 Drawing Commission" to be appointed by the governor for a  
51 term of three years. This commission shall approve rules and  
52 regulations necessary for the honest and efficient administra-  
53 tion of a semi-annual Massachusetts sweepstakes drawing.

54 *Section 4.* The department of the state auditor shall make  
55 a public audit of all the tickets, books, prizes and records to  
56 further guarantee the honest and efficient administration of  
57 a semi-annual Massachusetts sweepstakes drawing. Said  
58 audit, in its final form, shall be given to all news-media oper-  
59 ating in the commonwealth of Massachusetts.