

HOUSE No. 3488

By Miss Howe of Somerville, petition of Marie E. Howe for legislation to exempt certain property of debtors from seizure upon execution. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT EXEMPTING CERTAIN PROPERTY FROM EXECUTION.

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 235 of the General Laws is hereby amended by strik-
2 ing out section 34 and inserting in place thereof the following
3 section:—

4 *Section 34.* The following property of the debtor shall be
5 exempt from seizure on execution:

6 First, The necessary wearing apparel of himself and of his
7 wife and children: one bedstead, bed and the necessary bedding
8 for every two persons of the family; one heating unit used for
9 warming the dwelling house, and fuel not exceeding the value of
10 fifty dollars procured and intended for the use of the family.

11 Second, Other household furniture necessary for him and his
12 family, not exceeding three thousand dollars in value.

13 Third, The bibles, school books and library, used by him or
14 his family, not exceeding two hundred dollars in value.

15 Fourth, Two cows, twelve sheep, two swine and four tons of
16 hay.

17 Fifth, Tools, implements and fixtures necessary for carrying
18 on his trade or business, not exceeding five hundred dollars in
19 value.

20 Sixth, Materials and stock designed and procured by him and
21 necessary for carrying on his trade or business, and intended to
22 be used or wrought therein, not exceeding five hundred dollars
23 in value.

24 Seventh, Provisions necessary and procured and intended for
25 the use of the family, not exceeding three hundred dollars in
26 value.

27 Eighth, One pew occupied by him or his family in a house of
28 public worship; but this provision shall not prevent the sale of a
29 pew for the non-payment of a tax legally laid thereon.

30 Ninth, Boats, fishing tackle and nets of fishermen actually
31 used by them in the prosecution of their business not exceeding
32 five hundred dollars in value.

33 Tenth, The uniform of an officer or soldier in the militia and
34 the arms and accoutrements required by law to be kept by him.

35 Eleventh, Rights of burial and tombs while in use as reposi-
36 tories for the dead.

37 Twelfth, One sewing machine, in actual use by each debtor or
38 by his family, not exceeding two hundred dollars in value.

39 Thirteenth, Share in co-operative associations subject to chap-
40 ter one hundred and fifty-seven not exceeding one hundred dollars
41 in value in the aggregate.

42 Fourteenth, Estates of homestead as defined in chapter one
43 hundred and eighty-eight of the General Laws.