

HOUSE No. 5337

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 27, 1972.

The committee on Social Welfare, to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 832) of Jack H. Backman and Jonathan L. Healy for legislation to establish annual parole review for inmates serving life sentences; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 643) of Jonathan L. Healy and Jack H. Backman relative to parole review for inmates serving life sentences, report recommending that the accompany bill (House, No. 5337) ought to pass.

For the committee,

JONATHAN L. HEALY

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO PAROLE REVIEW FOR PRISONERS SERVING LIFE SENTENCES.

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 133A of Chapter 127 of the General Laws, as most
2 recently amended by chapter 766 of the Acts of 1965, is hereby
3 further amended by striking out the words “before the full
4 membership” in the first sentence of the first paragraph and
5 inserting in place thereof the following words: – “before the
6 parole board”.

7 Section 133A of Chapter 127 of the General Laws, as most
8 recently amended by chapter 766 of the Acts of 1965, is hereby
9 further amended by striking out the third paragraph of said
10 section and inserting in its place the following paragraph: –

11 “After such hearing the parole board may grant to such
12 prisoner a parole permit to be at liberty upon such terms and
13 conditions as it may prescribe for the unexpired term of his
14 sentence. If such permit is not granted, the parole board shall
15 annually consider carefully and thoroughly the merits of each
16 such case on the question of releasing such prisoner on parole”.