

HOUSE No. 1470

By Mr. Doherty of Medford, petition of John F. McCarthy for establishment of a board for the regulation of cleaning and dyeing within the Division of Registration. State Administration.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BOARD FOR THE REGULATION OF
CLEANSING AND DYEING AND CORRECTING CERTAIN
ABUSES.

*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 1. There is hereby established a board of
2 cleansing and dyeing within the division of registra-
3 tion composed of three members appointed by the
4 governor, with the advice and consent of the executive
5 council.

1 SECTION 2. The governor, with the advice and
2 consent of the council, shall appoint, on or before Jan-
3 uary first, nineteen hundred and fifty-two, certain
4 members to said board, one person for a term of one
5 year; one person for a term of two years; one person
6 for a term of three years from said date; and following
7 the expiration of their terms the governor shall there-

8 after appoint their successors for a term of three
9 years. Each member shall be paid a sum of twenty-
10 five dollars for each day, or part thereof, for service
11 as a member, but in no case to exceed twenty-five
12 hundred dollars annually. The governor shall also
13 designate from among the appointive members the
14 chairman of said board.

1 SECTION 3. The board shall have authority to hire
2 necessary clerical, stenographic and other services in
3 the performance of its duties, including an executive
4 secretary and investigators.

1 SECTION 4. The board is hereby vested with juris-
2 diction over all establishments engaged in the cleansing
3 and dyeing of any type clothing including cloth or
4 fabric, wearing apparel and household furnishing.

1 SECTION 5. The board shall require all establish-
2 ments in the commonwealth engaged in such cleansing
3 to register with said board, and such establishments
4 shall be required to pay an annual license fee of fifty
5 dollars, for each such separate establishment.

1 SECTION 6. In the issuance of said licenses, the
2 board shall grade such licenses in separate classifica-
3 tions, and require such cleansers to display in a prom-
4 inent place in said establishment or establishments
5 notice of such classification which shall be determined
6 by the board in one of three classifications, either
7 "Grade I," "Grade II" or "Grade III;" such classi-
8 fication shall also be prominently displayed on all bills,
9 receipts, letterheads and advertisements of such estab-
10 lishments. Such classifications shall be determined

11 by the board on basis of information supplied by per-
12 sons, groups or corporations operating such establish-
13 ments, and/or information obtained by the board on
14 its own initiative; setting forth the exact type and
15 quality and quantity of cleansing fluid or materials
16 employed by said establishment in the conduct of its
17 business. Upon determination of grade of materials
18 and fluids employed by a particular cleanser, said
19 cleanser shall be graded accordingly by the board,
20 either Grade I, Grade II or Grade III.

1 SECTION 7. Prior to issuance of a license by the
2 board to a cleansing establishment, under the pro-
3 visions of this act, said cleansing establishment shall
4 first file a copy of an insurance policy with said board
5 attesting that said cleansing establishment is in-
6 demnified with an insurance coverage, equal to five
7 per cent of the gross business, or revenue of said
8 establishment for the preceding year; and said policy
9 shall specifically cover and indemnify against damages,
10 defects or losses to garments or products in the process
11 of cleansing by said establishment. Any cleansing
12 establishment that does not choose to carry such in-
13 surance may in place thereof post a bond in the amount
14 of fifteen thousand dollars in lieu of such insurance.
15 In the absence of such insurance policy, or such bond,
16 the board shall not issue a license to any such estab-
17 lishment.

1 SECTION 8. Each such cleansing establishment
2 must through its agent or employee inquire upon re-
3 ceipt of property to be cleansed, the fair market value
4 on said property and set forth in writing said value
5 and present each customer, leaving such property to be

6 cleansed, a receipt containing the value stated thereon,
7 and in the absence of compliance with this provision
8 the said cleansing establishments shall be estopped to
9 deny the fair value placed on the property by the cus-
10 tomer.