

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 6055

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 15, 1975.

The committee on the Judiciary, to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2308) of Michael F. Flaherty, Jr., for legislation to make the unauthorized possession of a nunchaku a criminal offense; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2947) of William Q. MacLean, Jr., and another relative to the illegal possession of a karate stick, report recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 6055) ought to pass.

For the committee,

MICHAEL F. FLAHERTY.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

**AN ACT MAKING UNAUTHORIZED POSSESSION OF A NUNCHAKU A CRIME.**

*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 10 of chapter 269 of the General Laws as most recently  
2 amended by chapter 649 of the acts of 1974 is hereby amended by  
3 striking out paragraph (b) and inserting in place thereof the  
4 following paragraph: —

5 Whoever, except as provided by law, carries on his person, or  
6 carries on his person or under his control in a vehicle, any stiletto,  
7 dagger, dirk knife, any knife having a double-edge blade, or a  
8 switch knife, or any knife having an automatic spring release  
9 device by which the blade is released from the handle, having a  
10 blade of over one and one-half inches, or a slung shot, blackjack,  
11 nunchaku, metallic knuckles or knuckles of any substance which  
12 could be put to the same use with the same or similar effect as  
13 metallic knuckles; or whoever, when arrested upon a warrant for  
14 an alleged crime, or when arrested while committing a breach or  
15 disturbance of the public peace, is armed with or has on his  
16 person, or has on his person or under his control in a vehicle, a  
17 billy or other dangerous weapon other than those herein  
18 mentioned and those mentioned in paragraph (a), shall be  
19 punished by imprisonment for not less than two and one-half  
20 years nor more than five years in the state prison, or for not less  
21 than six months nor more than two and one-half years in a jail or  
22 house of correction, except that, if the court finds that the  
23 defendant has not been previously convicted of a felony, he may  
24 be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars or by  
25 imprisonment for not more than two and one-half years in a jail  
26 or house of correction.