

HOUSE No. 6258

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, June 4, 1975.

The committee on the Judiciary, to whom was recommitted the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5017) of David J. Lane relative to establishing the position of chief justice of the juvenile courts, report recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 6258) 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 ESTABLISHING THE POSITION OF CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE JUVENILE COURTS.

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. Chapter 218 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 58A the following section: —
3 *Section 58B.* The governor with the advice and consent of the
4 council shall nominate and appoint a justice of a juvenile court, to
5 the office of chief justice of the juvenile courts, who shall, in
6 addition to his powers and duties as such chief justice, continue to
7 have and perform the powers and duties as such justice. He shall
8 receive a salary of thirty-one thousand seven hundred and thirty-
9 eight dollars for his combined services as chief justice and as
10 justice of the court to which he was appointed. In case of vacancy
11 in the office of chief justice of the juvenile courts, or of his illness
12 or absence, his duties as chief justice shall be performed by the
13 senior justice of the juvenile courts.

14 The chief justice of the juvenile courts shall be authorized to
15 visit any juvenile court and any district court hearing juvenile
16 cases, to require uniform procedures and to prescribe forms of
17 blanks and records relating to juvenile proceedings. The chief
18 justice shall also have general superintendence over the juvenile
19 courts, including the officers and other personnel thereof; but,
20 except as otherwise provided by law, shall have no power to
21 appoint any such officers and personnel; and shall have the power
22 to assign to sessions in the juvenile courts justices and special
23 justices of the juvenile courts, and, after consultation with the
24 chief justice of the district courts, such justices and special justices
25 of the district courts as may be available.

26 The expenses incurred by the chief justice in the performance of
27 his duties, including the expenses of clerical assistance, shall be
28 paid by the commonwealth.

29 To promote co-ordination in the work of the courts, the chief
30 justice of the juvenile courts may call a conference of any or all of
31 the justices of the juvenile courts or justices of the district courts
32 hearing juvenile cases or other officers connected with such
33 courts, and the traveling expenses of such justices or officers for
34 attending any such conferences shall be paid by the com-
35 monwealth. The chief justice may from time to time report to the
36 governor and to the general court his recommendations, with
37 drafts of legislation necessary to carry such recommendations
38 into effect relative to any matters affecting the administration of
39 the juvenile courts and district courts relating to juvenile
40 proceedings.

1 SECTION 2. Section 43 of Chapter 218 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking the phrase "including juvenile
3 proceedings and those related to wayward delinquent and
4 neglected children", and inserting in place thereof the following:
5 — "and the chief justice of the juvenile courts shall from time to
6 time make and promulgate similar rules relating to juvenile
7 proceedings and those related to wayward, delinquent and
8 neglected children."

