

HOUSE . . . . . No. 225.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 13, 1890.

The committee on Public Health, to whom was referred the Order relative to requiring towns to annually choose or otherwise establish boards of health, report the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

H. G. LESLIE.

Messrs. SPROUT of Worcester and MACOMBER of Fall River, of the House, dissent.

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety.

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### AN ACT

To provide for the Appointment of Boards of Health  
in Towns.

*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. If any town, respecting which no  
2 provision is made by special law for choosing a  
3 board of health, fails to choose a board of health  
4 or health officer at its annual meeting, as pro-  
5 vided for in chapter eighty of the Public Statutes,  
6 the selectmen of such town shall forthwith ap-  
7 point two persons, who shall, with the chairman  
8 of the board of selectmen, constitute the board of  
9 health until the next annual meeting of the town,  
10 and, if no board of health shall then be chosen,  
11 until their successors are chosen, as above pro-  
12 vided. The selectmen shall fill any vacancies  
13 that may occur in such board. The board of

14 health so constituted shall have the same rights,  
15 powers and duties, and be subject to the same  
16 obligations, as if chosen by the town at its annual  
17 meeting, as provided in said chapter.

1   SECT. 2. Section three of chapter eighty of  
2 the Public Statutes is hereby amended by striking  
3 out the words "or at a meeting legally warned  
4 for the purpose," in the second and third lines  
5 thereof, so as to read as follows:

6   *Sect. 3.* A town respecting which no pro-  
7 vision is made by special law for choosing a board  
8 of health, may, at its annual meeting, choose a  
9 board of health by ballot, to consist of not less  
10 than three nor more than nine persons, or may  
11 choose a health officer. If no such board or  
12 officer is chosen, the selectmen shall be the board  
13 of health.

1   SECT. 3. Every town board of health and  
2 health officer shall, each year, at the annual town  
3 meeting, make a written or printed report of the  
4 doings of such board or officer, and of the sani-  
5 tary condition of the town during the preceding  
6 year, which report shall also contain the number  
7 of deaths which have occurred in the town during  
8 the year, the cause of death as officially returned,  
9 the number of cases of the several contagious  
10 diseases reported to the board or officer, with  
11 such other recommendations or suggestions as  
12 the board or officer may consider in the interest  
13 of the public health.

1   SECT. 4. Every board of health and health  
2 officer shall transmit three copies of the annual  
3 report, to be made as provided herein, to the  
4 state board of health immediately after the issue  
5 of such report.