

HOUSE No. 975.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 3, 1897.

The committee on Manufactures, to whom was referred the petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 713) of Charles F. Brown and others for legislation to prevent danger from the escape of gas from unlighted gas burners, report the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

H. L. BOUTWELL.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-seven.

AN ACT

To prevent Danger from Escaping Gas from Unlighted Gas Burners.

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. The board of gas and electric light com-
2 missioners shall forthwith proceed to examine and test, or
3 cause to be examined and tested, such appliance or ap-
4 pliances for preventing danger from escaping gas from
5 unlighted gas burners as may be brought to their notice ;
6 and when it appears that the use of any such appliance
7 or appliances would be likely to prevent such danger
8 from escaping gas, they shall officially approve the
9 same and give public notice of such approval by causing
10 publication thereof, to be made in at least one newspaper
11 published in each county in the Commonwealth.

1 SECT. 2. Within six months after the time when the
2 board of gas and electric light commissioners shall have
3 officially approved an appliance or appliances for pre-
4 venting danger from escaping gas from unlighted gas

5 burners, every owner, lessee, proprietor or manager of a
6 hotel or lodging house in this Commonwealth, shall place
7 or cause to be placed some such appliance or appliances
8 on every gas burner in every room of such hotel or lodg-
9 ing house used as a lodging room, using only such ap-
10 pliance or appliances as shall have been officially approved
11 by the said board of gas and electric light commissioners.

1 SECT. 3. When the board of gas and electric light
2 commissioners shall have approved an appliance or ap-
3 pliances under the provisions of section one of this bill, it
4 shall be the duty of the inspector of buildings of every
5 city or town of the Commonwealth, or, if there be no
6 such officer, of the chief engineer or the officer perform-
7 ing the duties of chief engineer of the fire department of
8 every city or town in the Commonwealth, each year to
9 inspect or cause to be inspected every gas burner in
10 every lodging room of every hotel or lodging house in
11 the city or town in which he is performing the duty of
12 inspector of buildings or chief engineer, and to ascertain
13 if the provisions of this act are complied with and to re-
14 port the condition of the appliance or appliances to the
15 chief of the district police.

1 SECT. 4. Any person violating the provisions of this
2 act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punishable by
3 a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or imprison-
4 ment in the county jail or house of correction for not
5 more than six months, or by both such fine and im-
6 prisonment.

1 SECT. 5. This act shall take effect on its passage.

