

HOUSE No. 789

Bill accompanying the petition of James Barr Ames for legislation to revive the Board of Commissioners for the Promotion of Uniformity of Legislation in the United States. Joint Judiciary. January 26.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nine.

AN ACT

To establish a Board of Commissioners for the Promotion of Uniformity of Legislation in the United States.

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 governor shall with the advice and
2 consent of the council, within thirty days after the
3 passage of this act, appoint three suitable persons, who
4 are hereby constituted a board of commissioners by the
5 name and style of commissioners for the promotion of
6 uniformity of legislation in the United States. The said
7 commissioners shall meet and organize within thirty days
8 after the said board shall be appointed, and shall hold
9 office for a term not exceeding five years from the day

10 of such organization. Any vacancy in the office of such
11 commissioner by resignation or otherwise shall be filled
12 for the unexpired term of appointment by the appoint-
13 ment of a suitable person by the governor with the advice
14 and consent of the council. The governor may remove
15 for cause any or all of said commissioners.

1 SECTION 2. It shall be the duty of said board to ex-
2 amine the subjects of marriage and divorce, insolvency,
3 the descent and distribution of property, the execution
4 and probate of wills and other subjects upon which uni-
5 formity of legislation in the various states and terri-
6 tories of the union is desirable, but which are outside the
7 jurisdiction of the congress of the United States; to con-
8 fer upon these matters with the commissioners appointed
9 by other states and territories for the same purpose; to
10 consider and draft uniform laws to be submitted for ap-
11 proval and adoption by the several states; and generally
12 to devise and recommend such other or further course
13 of action as shall accomplish the purposes of this act.

1 SECTION 3. The said board of commissioners shall
2 keep a record of all its transactions, and shall on or before
3 the thirty-first day of December in each year, and may at
4 any other time, make a report of its doings and of its
5 recommendations to the governor and council, to be trans-
6 mitted to the general court.

1 SECTION 4. No member of said board shall receive
2 any compensation for its services, but each member shall
3 be repaid from the state treasury the amount of his actual
4 travelling and other necessary expenses incurred in the
5 discharge of his official duty, after the account thereof
6 has been audited by said board and by the state auditor.

7 The said board shall keep a full account of its expendi-
8 tures and shall report it in each annual report.

1 SECTION 5. To carry out the provisions of this act
2 a sum not exceeding twenty-five hundred dollars may be
3 expended.

1 SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

