

By Mr. Corazzini of Shrewsbury, petition of Michael Joseph Connolly (Secretary of the Commonwealth), Leo R. Corazzini, Philip W. Johnston and A. James Whitney relative to the preservation of certain governmental books, papers and records. State Administration.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-One.

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PRESERVATION OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENTAL BOOKS, PAPERS AND RECORDS.

*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 8 of Chapter 66 of the General Laws is hereby amended  
2 by striking the first sentence, as amended by Section 3 of Chapter  
3 427 of the Acts of 1962, and inserting in place thereof the following  
4 sentences: —

5 Every original paper belonging to the files of the commonwealth  
6 or of any county, city, or town, bearing a date earlier than the year  
7 eighteen hundred and seventy, every book of registry or record,  
8 except books which the supervisor of public records determines  
9 may be destroyed, every town warrant, every deed to the common-  
10 wealth or to any county, city, or town, every report of an agent,  
11 officer or committee relative to bridges, public ways, sewers or  
12 other state, county, or municipal interests not required to be  
13 recorded in a book and not so recorded, shall be preserved and  
14 safely kept; and every other paper belonging to such files shall be  
15 kept for seven years after the latest original entry therein or there-  
16 on, unless otherwise provided by law or unless such records are  
17 included in disposal schedules approved by the supervisor of public  
18 records. No record of the commonwealth as defined in Section 3 of  
19 this chapter shall be destroyed without the approval of the state  
20 archivist.

