

HOUSE No. 1411

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Feb. 21, 1910.

The committee on Agriculture, to whom were referred the recommendations for legislation to be contained in the annual report of the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture (House, No. 233), report, in part, the accompanying bill.

For the committee,

DANIEL W. KENDRICK.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Mar. 15, 1910.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the resolve to provide for the appointment of an inspector of apiaries and for the suppression and control of contagious bee diseases (House, No. 1197), report that the same ought to pass in a new draft herewith submitted.

For the committee,

WILTON B. FAY.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ten.

AN ACT

To provide for the Appointment of an Inspector of Apiaries and for the Suppression and Control of Contagious Bee Diseases.

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 state board of agriculture shall
2 annually appoint some person qualified by scien-
3 tific training and practical experience in bee keep-
4 ing to be state inspector of apiaries, who shall be
5 responsible to said state board of agriculture for
6 the performance of his duties under this act, and
7 may be removed from office by the said state board
8 of agriculture for neglect of duty or malfeasance
9 in office. Said inspector of apiaries, with the ap-
10 proval of the said state board of agriculture, may
11 appoint such deputies, not exceeding three, as he
12 may deem necessary. The inspector of apiaries
13 and each of his deputies shall receive five dollars
14 for each day of service actually rendered under
15 this act and the travelling and necessary expenses
16 incurred in said service.

1 SECTION 2. It shall be the duty of the inspector
2 of apiaries to prepare and distribute from time to
3 time such literature upon the subject of bee cul-
4 ture, with the approval of the state board of agri-
5 culture, as may be deemed advisable. He shall also
6 make or cause to be made through his deputies,
7 annually, such inspection of the apiaries throughout
8 the state as may be deemed necessary to discover
9 and suppress all bee diseases of a contagious
10 nature, and he shall have the authority, with the
11 approval of the state board of agriculture, to issue
12 such rules as may be regarded as necessary for
13 carrying out the provisions of this act.

1 SECTION 3. No person shall keep a colony of bees
2 affected with the disease known as foul brood,
3 black brood or other infectious or contagious dis-
4 ease harmful to honey bees in the egg, larval, pupal
5 or adult stages, except as provided by section four
6 of this act; and every bee keeper, when he becomes
7 aware of the existence of such a disease among his
8 bees, shall at once notify the inspector of apiaries
9 of the existence of the same. Any person who,
10 knowing that a contagious or infectious disease ex-
11 ists among his bees, sells, barter or gives away,
12 or in any other way disposes of the same in whole
13 or in part, or any product of the same, or any hive,
14 super, frame, section or other appliance used about
15 the diseased bees, in such manner as to cause the
16 spread of the disease, shall upon conviction before
17 a court be liable to the penalties named in section
18 eight of this act.

1 SECTION 4. The inspector of apiaries shall, upon

2 the discovery of a case of foul brood, black brood
3 or other infectious or contagious disease, issue to
4 the owner of the diseased bees an order in writing
5 that such bees are to be held in quarantine until
6 such time as the same are released by a written
7 permit from the inspector of apiaries, and bees so
8 placed in quarantine shall not be removed from the
9 premises of the owner under the penalties named
10 in section eight of this act.

1 SECTION 5. Upon the discovery of a case of foul
2 brood, black brood or other infectious or contagious
3 bee disease in any apiary or colony, the inspector
4 of apiaries or his deputies shall give such instruc-
5 tion to the owner or caretaker thereof as to the
6 treatment of the diseased colonies as may be neces-
7 sary. If, upon subsequent inspection, the disease
8 is still found to exist in the apiary or colony, the
9 inspector of apiaries or his deputies may cause
10 the diseased colonies to be destroyed in such manner
11 as to prevent the spread of the disease.

1 SECTION 6. For the purpose of enforcing this act
2 the inspector of apiaries or his deputies shall have
3 access, ingress and egress to all places where bees,
4 bee products or supplies or appliances used in
5 apiaries are kept.

1 SECTION 7. The inspector of apiaries shall keep
2 a detailed record of the number and location of all
3 apiaries visited, the number and location of all col-
4 onies found diseased and the treatment thereof, and
5 the expenditure incurred in the performance of his
6 duties. He shall report annually, and at such other

7 times as requested, to the state board of agriculture,
8 which annual report shall be published in the an-
9 nual report of the state board of agriculture.

1 SECTION 8. Any person convicted of the violation
2 of any provision of this act shall be subject to a fine
3 not exceeding ten dollars for the first offence, to
4 a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars for the
5 second offence, and to a fine not exceeding fifty dol-
6 lars for any subsequent offence.

1 SECTION 9. A sum not exceeding five hundred dol-
2 lars may be expended during the present fiscal year
3 by the state board of agriculture in carrying out
4 the provisions of this act.

1 SECTION 10. This act shall take effect upon its
2 passage.

