

HOUSE No. 51

Bill accompanying the petition of the Massachusetts Forestry Association relative to the development and extension of State forests. Administration and Commissions. January 3.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nineteen.

AN ACT

Relative to the Organization of the State Forest Commission, to abolish the Office of State Forester, and to provide for the Development and Protection of State Forests.

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 forest commission, established
2 by chapter seven hundred and twenty of the acts of the
3 year nineteen hundred and fourteen, shall hereafter be
4 composed of three persons who shall be appointed by the
5 governor, with the advice and consent of the council, for
6 terms of six years, and who shall serve without compensa-
7 tion. The original appointments shall be for terms of
8 two, four and six years, respectively, and thereafter one
9 member shall be appointed every two years. The office
10 of state forester, created under the provisions of chapter
11 four hundred and nine of the acts of the year nineteen

12 hundred and four and acts in amendment thereof and in
13 addition thereto, is hereby abolished, and all the rights,
14 powers, duties and obligations conferred and imposed
15 upon such state forester under existing laws are hereby
16 transferred to the state forest commission, which shall be
17 in all respects the lawful successor of said state forester.
18 The commission shall employ a technically trained for-
19 ester and determine his salary, which shall not exceed five
20 thousand dollars per annum.

1 SECTION 2. The commission shall proceed to investi-
2 gate the possibilities of utilizing the services of returned
3 soldiers and sailors who are citizens of the commonwealth
4 in the development of the state forests, and shall report
5 its findings to the general court.

1 SECTION 3. The sum of thirty thousand dollars may
2 be expended during the present year and an equal sum
3 for each of the four succeeding years by the state forest
4 commission in the acquisition, protection and develop-
5 ment of lands for state forests. If any part of said ap-
6 propriation remains unexpended at the close of any year,
7 the balance may be expended in the following year. The
8 average cost of land purchased by the commission for the
9 purposes of this act shall not exceed ten dollars an acre.
10 Said commission may also expend not more than one
11 thousand dollars annually for its necessary expenses in-
12 curred in carrying out the provisions of this act.

1 SECTION 4. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with
2 this act are hereby repealed.