

HOUSE No. 474.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-
One.

AN ACT

In relation to Alien Passengers arriving in regular Lines
of Communication.

[As passed by the Senate.]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 SECT. 1. The owners of any steamships or other
2 vessels which may belong to a line of communication
3 now established, or which may hereafter be estab-
4 lished for the regular transportation of passengers
5 between any country or countries without the limits
6 of the United States, and any port in this Common-
7 wealth, may, as a substitute for the bonds now pro-

8 vided for by law, at any time file with the treasurer
9 a bond to the Commonwealth in the penal sum of
10 twenty-five thousand dollars, executed by the per-
11 sons or corporations owning such steamships or
12 other vessels, or by their authorized agents in their
13 behalf, with a sufficient surety or sureties, resi-
14 dent in the United States, satisfactory to the said
15 treasurer, conditioned that no alien passenger who
16 shall within a year from the date of said bond,
17 arrive in such port in such steamship or other
18 vessel, shall, within ten years from the date of
19 such arrival, become a city, town or state charge
20 within such Commonwealth; and upon the arrival
21 of such steamship or other vessel in any port of
22 this Commonwealth, it shall be the duty of the
23 superintendent of alien passengers forthwith to
24 board such steamship or other vessel, and to call upon
25 her captain, master or purser for a descriptive sched-
26 ule, for purposes of identification, of all her alien
27 passengers, certified by such officer or officers, and
28 upon receiving the same to inspect such passen-
29 gers as they land, using due despatch; and he shall
30 allow all such passengers thus certified freely to land
31 at once after inspection, excepting, however, all who
32 shall be found to be insane, idiotic, deaf and dumb,
33 blind, deformed or maimed, or for any reason pecu-
34 liarly liable to become a public charge, upon being
35 paid an inspection fee of twenty-five cents for each of
36 all said alien passengers of every kind.

1 SECT. 2. It shall be the duty of the captain, mas-
2 ter, purser or agent of such steamship or vessel to
3 promptly furnish such schedule of alien passengers,

4 together with a separate schedule of all the alien pas-
5 sengers on board the said steamship or other vessel,
6 who shall be insane, idiotic, deaf and dumb, blind,
7 deformed or maimed, or otherwise peculiarly liable
8 to become a public charge, duly certified by said cap-
9 tain, master, purser or agent, to the superintendent of
10 alien passengers on her arrival in such port; and
11 each of such schedules shall contain the name, sex,
12 age, nation and previous residence of such passenger.
13 And any captain, master, purser or agent of such
14 steamship or vessel who shall fail or refuse to furnish
15 either of the schedules above mentioned, shall for
16 such failure or refusal severally forfeit the sum of one
17 thousand dollars.

1 SECT. 3. No such steamship or other vessel shall,
2 after her owners have filed such bond for one year
3 after the date thereof, be required to come to anchor
4 or otherwise delayed in reaching her place of dis-
5 charge, except under quarantine laws; but new
6 bonds in the same penal sum shall be filed with said
7 treasurer at least annually, with satisfactory surety or
8 sureties as aforesaid.

1 SECT. 4. No alien passengers who shall be insane,
2 idiotic, deaf and dumb, blind, deformed or maimed,
3 or otherwise peculiarly liable to become a public
4 charge, shall be allowed to land until a separate
5 bond from said owners or their authorized agent
6 in a sum equal in the aggregate to one thousand
7 dollars for each of said passengers shall have been
8 duly executed by the owners of such steamships or
9 other vessels to this Commonwealth and delivered

10 to said superintendent, conditioned that none of said
11 last-named passengers shall within ten years from
12 the date thereof become a city, state or town charge
13 in this Commonwealth.

1 SECT. 5. Whenever any alien passenger who shall
2 arrive by said steamships, or other vessels, shall have
3 become within this Commonwealth a state, city or
4 town charge during said term of ten years, the own-
5 ers of said steamships or other vessels or their author-
6 ized agent, shall be entitled to prompt notice thereof,
7 and may terminate the liability of said owners for the
8 subsequent expenses of such alien passenger by con-
9 veying such passenger back at their own expense to
10 the port from which they brought the same, and
11 the said owners shall be required to take back any
12 alien passenger by them brought to any port in this
13 state within the said term of ten years, who shall
14 within said term, become a state, city or town charge,
15 in this Commonwealth, to the port whence said pas-
16 senger came, and shall make no charge therefor.

1 SECT. 6. Chapter two hundred and fifteen of the
2 acts of eighteen hundred and seventy is hereby re-
3 pealed.

1 SECT. 7. All provisions of law inconsistent here-
2 with, so far as they may apply to regular lines of
3 communication, are hereby repealed.

1 SECT. 8. This act shall take effect from its pas-
2 sage.