

HOUSE No. 209.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 20, 1877.

The Committee on Water Supply and Drainage, to whom was referred the Bill (on leave) relating to boards of health in the several cities of the Commonwealth, report the same in a new draft, herewith submitted.

For the Committee,

T. J. HASTINGS.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

AN ACT

Relating to Boards of Health in the Several Cities of
the Commonwealth.

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. In each of the several cities of this
2 Commonwealth, except the city of Boston, the
3 mayor and aldermen shall, in the month of Janu-
4 ary, in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-
5 eight, appoint two persons, not members of the
6 city council, who, together with the city physician,
7 shall constitute the board of health of such city.
8 The board so constituted shall enter upon its du-
9 ties on the first Monday of February then next
10 succeeding. The terms of office of the two ap-
11 pointed members shall be so arranged at the time
12 of their appointment, that the term of one shall
13 expire on the first Monday in February in each
14 year, after the year eighteen hundred and seventy-
15 eight; and the vacancy so created, as well as all
16 vacancies occurring otherwise, shall, in each of

17 said cities be filled by the mayor, with the approv-
18 al of the board of aldermen. The members of
19 said board of health so appointed, shall, in each
20 of said cities be subject to removal by the mayor
21 for cause; and for their services they shall receive
22 such compensation as the city council may from
23 time to time determine.

1 SECT. 2. Each of said boards of health shall
2 organize annually by the choice of one of their
3 number as chairman. They may also choose a
4 clerk, not a member of the board; and they may
5 make such rules and regulations for their own
6 government and for the government of all sub-
7 ordinate officers in their department as they may
8 deem expedient.

1 SECT. 3. The boards of health hereby consti-
2 tuted shall have and exercise all the powers vested
3 in, and shall perform all the duties prescribed to,
4 city councils or mayors and aldermen as boards of
5 health, under the statutes and ordinances now in
6 force in their respective cities; and shall have
7 power to appoint such subordinate officers, agents
8 and assistants, as they may deem necessary, and
9 may fix their compensation, and the compensation
10 of the clerk before mentioned, provided that the
11 whole amount of such compensation shall not ex-
12 ceed the sum appropriated therefor by the city
13 council.

1 SECT. 4. In each of said cities said boards of
2 health shall annually, in the month of January,
3 present to the city council a report made up to

4 and including the thirty-first day of the preceding
5 December, containing a full and comprehensive
6 statement of the acts of the board during the year,
7 and a review of the sanitary condition of the city.
8 They shall also, whenever the city council, or the
9 standing committee thereof on finance shall so re-
10 quire, send to the auditor of accounts an estimate
11 in detail of the appropriations required by their
12 department during the next financial year.

1 SECT. 5. Said boards of health, and the board
2 of health of the city of Boston, in addition to the
3 powers conferred upon them by existing statutes,
4 are hereby authorized to prepare and enforce such
5 regulations as they may deem necessary for the
6 safety and health of the people, with reference to
7 house drainage and its connection with public
8 sewers, where such connection is made.

1 SECT. 6. On the Tuesday next after the first
2 Monday of November next a meeting of the legal
3 voters of each of the several cities of the Com-
4 monwealth shall be duly warned and called by
5 the mayor and aldermen thereof for the purpose
6 of voting upon the acceptance of this act; and
7 the same shall not take effect in any city unless
8 accepted by a majority of the legal voters present
9 and voting at said meeting.