HOUSE No. 6204

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 10, 1980.

The committee on Human Services and Elderly Affairs, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1260) of John J. Buckley and Barney Frank that prisoners be allowed to attend funerals or visit sick relatives, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 6204) ought to pass.

For the committee.

DAVID J. MOFENSON

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ATTENDANCE AT FUNERAL OR VISITS TO SICK RELATIVES BY PRISONERS.

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

- Section 90A of chapter 27 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter 777 of the acts of 1972, is hereby amended by
- 3 inserting after the word "community" in line 26 the following:
- The commissioner or the administrator of a county correctional
- 5 institution may extend the limits of the place of confinement of any
- 6 prisoner who is placed in custody in a state or county correctional
- 7 facility while awaiting trial by authorizing such prisoner under
- 8 prescribed conditions to be away from such correctional facility
- 9 for a specified period of time. Such authorization may be granted
- 10 for either of the following purposes: (a) to attend the funeral of a
- 11 relative; (b) to visit a critically ill relative.