

HOUSE No. 1291.

[House, No. 1216, as amended and engrossed.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-five.

AN ACT

Relative to the Expenditure of Money by Counties.

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 expenditure of money by the several
2 counties shall be authorized annually by law, and the
3 purposes for which such expenditure may be made shall
4 be specified in detail in said law. No expenditure for
5 any purpose shall be made in excess of the amount so
6 specified, and no bill in excess of such amount shall be
7 paid by the county treasurer except as herein provided.

1 SECT. 2. Whenever in the judgment of the county
2 commissioners of any county the interests of such county
3 demand an expenditure in excess of the amount author-
4 ized by law therefor, or for a purpose for which no ap-
5 propriation has been made, such commissioners, or a

6 majority of them, may transfer from any appropriation,
7 or expend from any unappropriated money in the county
8 treasury, such sums as they shall consider expedient.
9 In all such cases, however, the county commissioners
10 shall cause the reasons for such transfer or expenditure
11 to be placed upon their records, and shall send a copy
12 of the same to the controller of county accounts, with
13 their estimates for the ensuing year, and such reasons
14 shall be published by said controller in his annual report.

1 SECT. 3. The county commissioners and other county
2 officers authorized to incur liabilities payable from the
3 county treasury may, after the expiration of the financial
4 year and before the making of the regular annual appro-
5 priation by the general court, incur liabilities payable
6 out of a regular appropriation to an amount not exceed-
7 ing the liabilities incurred in the preceding year for the
8 same purpose during the same period.

1 SECT. 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 23, 1895.

Passed to be engrossed.

Sent up for concurrence.

EDWARD A. McLAUGHLIN, *Clerk.*

