

SENATE No. 921

By Mr. McKenna, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 921) of Denis L. McKenna for legislation to extend the jurisdiction of the district courts. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Five.

AN ACT TO EXTEND THE JURISDICTION OF THE DISTRICT COURTS.

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 District Courts shall have the same juris-
2 diction in both civil and criminal matters as the Superior
3 Court.

1 SECTION 2. The senior justice of each district court shall
2 have the power to apoint auditors or masters for the hearing
3 and disposition of small claims, supplementary process pro-
4 cedures and other routine matters. Upon the appointment of
5 such auditor or masters the justices or the special justices
6 shall no longer hear such matters and they shall serve in the
7 superior court upon designation of the chief justice thereof in
8 order to relieve the docket congestion of said court.

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