

HOUSE No. 7231

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, August 7, 1973.

The committee on the Judiciary, to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 338) of George L. Sacco, Jr., and Gerald P. Lombard that persons convicted of murder in the first degree of a law enforcement or correctional officer shall suffer the punishment of death; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1379) of Carlton M. Viveiros that persons guilty of murder in the first degree be punished by imprisonment in a state prison for life and by death in certain cases; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4922) of Vincent P. Polito that provision be made for a mandatory death sentence for the crime of murder; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5116) of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Assoc., Inc. that the crime of murder in the first degree shall be punishable by death; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 6780) of John D. Graham and others for legislation to further regulate the punishment of persons found guilty of murder in the first degree, report recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 7231) ought to pass.

For the committee,

CORNELIUS F. KIERNAN.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT PERSONS CONVICTED OF MURDER IN THE
FIRST DEGREE SHALL SUFFER THE PUNISHMENT OF DEATH.

*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 2 of chapter 265 of the General Laws is hereby
- 2 amended by striking the first two sentences of said section and
- 3 inserting in place thereof the following: —
- 4 *Section 2.* Whoever is guilty of murder in the first degree
- 5 shall suffer the punishment of death.