

By Mr. Jewett of Lowell, petition of the Commission on Probation that the name of said commission be changed to Board of Probation and that its executive officer be designated Commissioner of Probation, State Administration.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-Nine.

An Act to change the Name of the Commission on Probation and of its Executive Officer.

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. Sections ninety-eight, ninety-nine,
2 one hundred, one hundred and one, and one hundred
3 and two of chapter two hundred and seventy-six of
4 the General Laws are hereby amended by striking
5 out the words "commission on probation" and the
6 word "commission" wherever they occur and in-
7 serting in their place the words:— board of pro-
8 bation, — or the word:— board, — as the case may
9 be, and by striking out the words "deputy commis-
10 sioner" wherever they occur and inserting in their
11 place the words:— commissioner of probation, —
12 or the word:— commissioner, — as the case may be,
13 so as to read:— *Section 98.* There shall be a board
14 of probation of five persons, appointed by the chief
15 justice of the superior court, one or more of whom
16 may be justices of the courts. Said chief justice

17 shall annually appoint one member of the board to
18 serve for five years from the second Wednesday in
19 July. A vacancy in the board shall be filled in the
20 same manner for the unexpired term. Any member
21 of the board may be removed by the chief justice.
22 The board shall appoint a commissioner of proba-
23 tion as its executive officer, who shall hold office
24 during its pleasure. He shall perform such duties
25 as may be required of him by the board and shall
26 receive such salary as it shall, subject to the ap-
27 proval of the governor and council, determine.
28 The board shall be provided with suitable office
29 accommodations, in the Suffolk county court house
30 or elsewhere, and may employ such assistance as is
31 needed to perform its work. The members of the
32 board shall receive no compensation for services
33 hereunder, but they and the commissioner shall be
34 allowed the necessary expenses incurred in the
35 performance of their official duties. The board
36 may expend for the purposes for which it is estab-
37 lished such sums as the general court may appropri-
38 ate. *Section 99.* The board of probation shall
39 prescribe the form of all records and of all reports
40 from probation officers, and shall make rules for the
41 registration of reports and for the exchange of in-
42 formation between the courts. It shall provide
43 for such organization and co-operation of the pro-
44 bation officers in the several courts as may seem
45 advisable. To promote co-ordination in the pro-
46 bation work of the courts, the board may call a
47 conference of any or all of the justices of the district
48 courts and the Boston juvenile court, or a conference
49 of any or all of the probation officers and assistant
50 probation officers, and a member of the board shall

51 preside. With the approval of the board, the com-
52 missioner of correction or the department of public
53 welfare may hold a conference with any or all of the
54 probation officers to secure their co-operation in
55 keeping trace of the whereabouts of persons who
56 are at liberty from the prisons of the commonwealth.
57 The traveling expenses of said justices or officers in
58 attending any conference herein named shall be
59 paid as the other expenses of the respective courts
60 are paid. *Section 100.* Every probation officer, or
61 the chief or senior probation officer of a court having
62 more than one probation officer, shall transmit to
63 the board of probation, in such form and at such
64 times as it shall require, detailed reports regarding
65 the work of probation in the court, and the com-
66 missioner of correction, the institutions commissioner
67 of Boston and the county commissioners of counties
68 other than Suffolk shall transmit to the board, as
69 aforesaid, detailed and complete records relative to
70 all paroles and permits to be at liberty granted or
71 issued by them, respectively, to the revoking of the
72 same and to the length of time served on each sen-
73 tence to imprisonment by each prisoner so released
74 specifying the institution where each such sentence
75 was served; and under the direction of the board
76 a record shall be kept of all such cases as the board
77 may require for the information of the justices and
78 probation officers. Police officials shall co-operate
79 with the board and the probation officers in obtain-
80 ing and reporting information concerning persons
81 on probation. The information so obtained and
82 recorded shall be accessible at all times to the justices
83 and officers of the courts, to the police commissioner
84 of Boston, and to all chiefs of police and city mar-

85 shals. The commissioner of correction and the de-
86 partment of public welfare shall at all times give to
87 the board and the probation officers such informa-
88 tion as may be obtained from the records concern-
89 ing prisoners under sentence or who have been
90 released. *Section 101.* The board of probation shall
91 make an annual report to the general court of the
92 probation work of the courts for the year ending on
93 September thirtieth preceding. The report shall
94 include such information as the board may consider
95 useful, with its suggestions or recommendations.
96 *Section 102.* The four preceding sections shall not
97 affect the authority of the courts to require the
98 keeping by their probation officers of probation
99 records in addition to those necessary to conform to
100 forms of records and reports prescribed by the
101 board of probation nor the authority of the courts
102 to approve expenses and disbursements relating to
103 the probation system.

1 SECTION 2. The board of probation shall have and
2 exercise whatever powers and duties are by statute
3 conferred upon the commission on probation.