

HOUSE No. 686.

Bill accompanying the petition of Thomas J. Fay for legislation to regulate the exhibition of moving pictures, so called. Legal Affairs. January 21.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eight.

AN ACT

Relative to the Use of Moving Picture Machines, so called.

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

1 No person, firm, corporation or association of persons
2 shall operate or cause to be operated, and no manager,
3 owner or proprietor of a hall, theatre, or other place of
4 amusement shall permit to be used or operated, in any
5 hall, theatre, or other place of amusement, any machine
6 or other device for the projection of pictures upon a screen
7 or other substance for a period exceeding ten minutes for
8 each film, picture, or series of pictures. Any person, firm,
9 corporation or association of persons operating or owning
10 such machines shall, after each film, picture, or series of
11 pictures, or at the expiration of said period of ten minutes,

12 cause the theatre, hall, or other place of amusement to be
13 fully lighted for a period of not less than five minutes:
14 *provided, however*, that the provisions of this section shall
15 apply only to moving picture machines, so called, and
16 shall not be construed to include machines or other de-
17 vices for projecting pictures upon a screen or other sub-
18 stance, which pictures remain stationary thereon. Any
19 person, firm, corporation, or association of persons violat-
20 ing the provisions of this act shall be subject to a fine of
21 not less than fifty dollars or to imprisonment for not less
22 than six months.