

Accompanying the petition of Charles E. Abbott relative to actions for malpractice against physicians and others. Joint Judiciary. January 17.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

AN ACT

Relative to Actions against Physicians and Others for Malpractice.

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 four of chapter two hundred and sixty of the
2 General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the
3 word "and", in the third line, and by inserting after the
4 word "towns", in the fourth line, the words:— and
5 actions of contract or tort for malpractice, error or
6 mistake, against physicians, surgeons, dentists, hospitals,
7 sanitariums and others,— so as to read as follows:—
8 *Section 4.* Actions for assault and battery, false imprison-
9 ment, slander, actions against sheriffs, deputy sheriffs,
10 constables or assignees in insolvency, for the taking or
11 conversion of personal property, actions of tort for in-
12 juries to the person against counties, cities and towns,
13 and actions of contract or tort for malpractice, error or
14 mistake, against physicians, surgeons, dentists, hospitals,
15 sanitariums and others, shall be commenced only within
16 two years next after the cause of action accrues; and
17 actions for libel shall be commenced only within one
18 year next after the cause of action accrues.

