

SENATE No. 306.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SENATE, June 16, 1885.

The Committee on Public Charitable Institutions, to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Health, Lunacy and Charity, report the accompanying Bill.

For the Committee,

PAUL H. KENDRICKEN.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-five.

AN ACT

Providing for the Care of certain Insane Persons.

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 state board of health, lunacy
2 and charity is hereby authorized to place at board
3 where they may deem it expedient, and in suitable
4 families throughout the Commonwealth, in-
5 sane persons of the chronic and quiet class; and
6 the cost of boarding such insane persons having
7 no settlement in this Commonwealth shall be
8 paid from the appropriation for the support of
9 state paupers in lunatic hospitals; but the rate
10 paid for their board shall not exceed the rate now
11 paid in the state lunatic hospitals.

1 SECT. 2. Bills for the support of such insane
2 persons boarded in families at the expense of the
3 state shall be payable quarterly, and shall be

4 audited by the state board of health, lunacy and
5 charity, which shall present at the end of each
6 quarter, commencing January, April, July and
7 October, a schedule of all such bills incurred
8 during the quarter; and registers shall be kept
9 by said board in such form that the auditor of
10 accounts shall be able to verify such schedules;
11 and for the present year all such bills shall be
12 paid from the appropriation made in chapter nine
13 of the acts of eighteen hundred and eighty-five
14 for the support of state paupers in lunatic hospi-
15 tals.

1 **SECT. 3.** It shall be the duty of the board of
2 health, lunacy and charity to cause all insane per-
3 sons who are boarded in families at the expense
4 of the Commonwealth to be visited at least once
5 in three months; and all insane persons who are
6 boarded in families at the expense of towns and
7 cities, and whose residence is made known to said
8 board, shall be visited in like manner at least
9 once in six months by some agent of the board of
10 health, lunacy and charity.

1 **SECT. 4.** Said board shall be required to re-
2 move to a lunatic hospital or to some better
3 boarding place all state paupers who upon visita-
4 tion are found to be abused, neglected or improp-
5 erly cared for, when boarded under the authority
6 of this act; and it may also remove to a lunatic
7 hospital any insane person boarded at the expense

8 of a city or town, who shall be found unsuitably
9 provided with a boarding place.

1 SECT. 5. This act shall take effect upon its
2 passage.