

**INDEX TO
MASSACHUSETTS
LEGISLATIVE
DOCUMENTS, 1883-1899**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649612208

Index to Massachusetts legislative documents, 1883-1899 by Leonard Adams

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

LEONARD ADAMS

**INDEX TO
MASSACHUSETTS
LEGISLATIVE
DOCUMENTS, 1883-1899**

INDEX
TO
MASSACHUSETTS
LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENTS,
1883 - 1899

by
Leonard Adams
Government Documents Librarian
University Library
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, Massachusetts

1994

Copyright (c) 1994 by Leonard Adams

INTRODUCTION

This index has been compiled because no complete, cumulative index to Massachusetts legislative documents exists for the years from 1883 to 1899. Legislative documents consist of House and Senate bills, resolutions, petitions, messages and reports, ranging in length from a few lines to one hundred pages or more. The index should prove extremely valuable to anyone doing legal or historical research in the late 19th century.

The only other access to legislative documents from 1883 through 1899 is an index for each year which appears at the front of each bound volume of the documents. These indexes are antiquated and difficult to use because of language and indexing phraseology. The predecessor to this index is Francis Blouin Jr.'s Index and Guide to Massachusetts State Legislative Documents, 1802-1882, which was published in 1972. The successor to this 1883-1899 index is the Legislative Research Bureau's Index to Special Reports Authorized by the General Court, which begins coverage in 1900 and is updated periodically, but limits its scope to only legislative reports.

In order to maintain consistency and continuity, the format for each index entry is the same as those of the Blouin and Research Bureau indexes. The first two digits represent the year the document was issued; the letters, H or S, represent the branch of the General Court; and the number following the letter represents the individual document. Thus, 83H255 is House document number 255 issued in 1883.

Compiling this index was not without some difficult language related problems. Terminology was often archaic and had to be updated. For example, instead of intoxicating liquors, alcoholic beverages was used. Also, mentally ill was substituted for insane and mentally handicapped for such terms as feeble-minded or idiotic. There was also a problem understanding some of the legal terminology involving bankruptcy, contracts and real estate due to the compiler's lack of knowledge in those areas.

Another problem was the lack of consistency with the forms of corporate and agency names, which appeared to be based on the whims of the bills' authors. Cross referencing was one solution, but often the final decision on the form of a corporate entry was based on which name was most consistently employed.

A third major problem was the lack of consistency in terminology used in the documents. Language involving transportation, sewage disposal and municipal utilities, to name a few, got extremely confusing as shifts in terminology evolved over the years.

In spite of the problems it was rewarding and exciting to observe political and social issues emerging and passing away over time. There was a definite emphasis on banking,

insurance, and real estate throughout the entire period. The growth of railroad and street railway industries is also well documented. Local transportation, water supply and municipal utilities become more important as the years progress. Issues that appeared between 1883 and 1899 that are still with us today include an assortment ranging from abortion and alcohol education in schools to gypsy moth extermination. Social issues that are well documented include religious freedom, women suffrage, and immigration. While it can be admitted that most of the indexing was tremendously tedious, the discovery of these pearls of legislative history and the knowledge that they would become more accessible to researchers, made the index come alive and take on a purpose that made the whole project worthwhile pursuing.

Finally, while I proofread and edited this index a number of times, being as careful as possible to catch all errors, incidences of number transposition or typographical error may still be present. I apologize for any such inaccuracies and hope they will not hinder greatly the completion of research or problem solution.

A. C. BARNES WHIP COMPANY 89H185
ABANDONMENT OF CHILDREN 99S102
ABATEMENT 96H946
ABBOTT, CLARA 91H104
ABBOTT, JAMES 90H443
ABBOTT, GEORGE C. 95H1249
ABINGTON-
Annexation 96H72
Board of Park Commissioners
98H853
Bonds, water debt 92H298
Cemeteries 84H247
Town meeting 99H1199
Water loan 88S22
Water supply, 84S208, 85S168,
86H222
Hanover 88H221
Water works 97H9
ABINGTON BUSINESS CLUB
BUILDING ASSOCIATION 89H67
ABOLITION OF GRADE CROSSINGS
LOAN SINKING FUND-
Appropriation 96H81,
97H70, 98H89, 99H139
ABORTION-
Abolish 96H554
ABSENTEE VOTING (See VOTING,
ABSENTEE)
ABUTERS-
Licenses, alcoholic beverages
83H118, 87H394, 95S160,
96H174, 96H587, 98H309,
99H66, 99H338, 99H748,
99H954, 99H1150
ACCIDENTS-
Employees 85H105
Factories, reporting 90S53
Gas or electrical 96H1172
Industrial 86H237
Public carriages 93H582
Railroad tracks, 91H361
trespassers 92H118
Street cars 94H180, 94H479
Street railways,
inquests 89S82
reporting 91H341
wires 96H273
ACCOUNTANTS-
Examination and certification
98H501
Probate courts 95H242
ACCOUNTING, PUBLIC FUNDS

ACCOUNTS-
Examination, county treasurers
97H20, 97H790
ACETYLENE GAS (See GAS, ACETYLENE)
ACTIONS AT LAW-
Demurrers, appeal 99H1128
ACTON- 85H449, 96H928
ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY (See
under LIBRARIES, PUBLIC)
ACTS AND RESOLVES-
Copies 95S60
Distribution, 95H245, 95H731,
95H799
national 92H135
Printing 90H314, 90S69
Publication 89S311
ACUSHNET RIVER-
Bridge 83H301, 83H337, 89H85,
93H503, 93H907, 94H238,
94H923, 94S163, 94S190,
94S268, 96H283, 97H350,
97H376, 97H926, 97H1296,
98H2, 98H816, 98H1152,
99H184, 99H481, 99S330,
99S337, 99S356
Ferry 95H546, 95H1265
Fishing 83H179, 95H546
New Bedford 83H337
ADAMS DISTRICT COURT 84S279
ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY-
Rates 97H608
ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT 92H399,
95H385, 96H344, 96S68
ADAMS, FLORENCE W. 89H87
ADAMS, JOHN 90H135
ADAMS, SAMUEL 89H510, 91H384,
91H416
ADAMS, WALTER 95H475
ADAMSON, DAVID L. 92H423, 94H441,
95H603
ADJUTANT GENERAL-
Appropriations 96H32, 96H101,
97H42, 98H100, 99H155
Clerk, salary 93H404, 93H835
Military records, 83H105
preservation 97S113, 97S179
Report, printing 93S341
Salaries 86H271
ADMINISTRATORS- (See also
EXECUTORS; GUARDIANS; TRUSTEES)
98H201
Accounts, settlement 95S104