

**THE MASSACHUSETTS LAWS
RELATING TO INSANE PERSONS
AND OTHER CLASSES UNDER THE
SUPERVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF MENTAL DISEASES**

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The Massachusetts Laws Relating to Insane Persons and Other Classes Under the supervision of the department of mental diseases by Various

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VARIOUS

**THE MASSACHUSETTS LAWS
RELATING TO INSANE PERSONS
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SUPERVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF MENTAL DISEASES**

Massachusetts. laws, statutes, etc. Insanity law

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

THE MASSACHUSETTS LAWS ^{et}

RELATING TO

INSANE PERSONS AND OTHER CLASSES UNDER THE SUPER-
VISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL DISEASES

AS CONSOLIDATED AND ARRANGED JANUARY, 1921, TOGETHER
WITH ADDITIONAL LAWS TO JANUARY 1, 1922



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A joint special committee was appointed to consolidate and arrange the General Laws of the Commonwealth. Their report was accepted, and the General Laws in accordance therewith became effective January 1, 1921.

Forms prescribed for admission may be obtained at the office of the Department of Mental Diseases, Room 109, State House, Boston, Mass.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. This includes the use of surveys, interviews, and focus groups to gather qualitative information, as well as the application of statistical software for quantitative analysis.

3. The third part details the process of identifying and measuring key performance indicators (KPIs). It explains how these indicators are selected based on the organization's strategic goals and how they are used to track progress and performance over time.

4. The fourth part describes the process of setting targets and benchmarks. It discusses how these are established based on industry standards and the organization's own historical performance, and how they are used to guide decision-making and resource allocation.

5. The fifth part discusses the importance of regular reporting and communication. It highlights the need for clear and concise reports that provide a comprehensive overview of the organization's performance and the challenges it is facing.

6. The sixth part addresses the issue of data security and privacy. It outlines the measures that should be taken to protect sensitive information and ensure compliance with relevant regulations and standards.

7. The seventh part discusses the role of technology in data management and analysis. It highlights the benefits of using advanced software and tools to streamline data collection, storage, and analysis processes.

8. The eighth part discusses the importance of continuous improvement and learning. It emphasizes the need for the organization to regularly review its performance and identify areas for improvement, and to implement changes based on the findings of its analysis.

9. The ninth part discusses the role of leadership in driving performance. It highlights the importance of setting a clear vision and strategy, and of providing the resources and support needed for the organization to succeed.

10. The tenth part discusses the importance of collaboration and teamwork. It emphasizes the need for all employees to work together towards common goals, and for there to be open communication and a shared sense of responsibility.

GENERAL LAWS

RELATING TO

INSANE PERSONS AND OTHER CLASSES UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL DISEASES.

Chapter 19, General Laws.

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL DISEASES.

SECT.

1. Department of mental diseases.
2. Commissioner.
3. Associate commissioners.
4. Commissioner. Certain duties. Assistant commissioner, etc.

SECT.

5. Public institutions in the department.
6. Boards of trustees of public institutions.

SECTION 1. There shall be a department of mental diseases, consisting of the commissioner of mental diseases and four associate commissioners. The commissioner and at least two associate commissioners shall be physicians and experts in the care and treatment of the insane.

1916, 285, §§ 1, 2.

1919, 350, § 79.

Department of mental diseases.
1898, 433, § 1.
R. L. 87, § 1.
1909, 504,
§§ 2, 107.
1914, 762,
§§ 1, 9.

SECTION 2. Upon the expiration of the term of office of a commissioner, his successor shall be appointed for five years by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council. The commissioner shall receive such salary, not exceeding seventy-five hundred dollars, as the governor and council determine, and shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of his duties.

Commissioner.
1898, 433,
§§ 1, 2.
R. L. 87, §§ 1,
2.
1909, 504,
§§ 2, 3, 107.
1914, 762,
§§ 1, 9.
1916, 285,
§§ 1, 2.
1919, 350, § 79.

SECTION 3. Upon the expiration of the term of office of an associate commissioner, his successor shall be appointed for four years by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council. The associate commissioners shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

1919, 350, § 79.

Associate commissioner.
1898, 433, § 1.
R. L. 87, § 1.
1909, 504,
§§ 2, 107.
1914, 762,
§§ 1, 9.
1916, 285,
§§ 1, 2.

SECTION 4. The commissioner shall be the executive and administrative head of the department and may organize therein such divisions as he may determine.

Commissioner.
Certain duties.
Assistant commissioner, etc.

1879, 291,
 §§ 3, 7,
 P. S. 79,
 §§ 2, 3,
 1898, 433,
 §§ 2, 3,
 R. L. 87,
 §§ 2, 3,
 1906, 504,
 §§ 3, 4, 107,
 1914, 782,
 §§ 1, 3, 9,
 1916, 286,
 §§ 4, 8,
 1919, 350, § 80,
 2 Op. A. G. 194,
 4 Op. A. G. 74.

Public institutions in the department.

1862, 223, § 1,
 1877, 252, § 1,
 P. S. 87, § 2,
 1884, 322, § 1,
 1892, 425, § 1,
 1895, 483, § 1,
 1900, 451, § 5,
 R. L. 87,
 §§ 13, 16,
 1905, 400,
 1906, 313, § 508,
 1907, 421,
 1908, 613, § 2,
 1909, 504,
 §§ 74, 107.

Boards of trustees of public institutions.

1832, 163,
 §§ 1, 8,
 1834, 150,
 §§ 1, 4,
 1835, 4,
 R. S. 48,
 §§ 1, 2, 17,
 1851, Res. 44,
 1853, 318, § 1,
 1856, 247,
 §§ 1, 3,
 1859, 37, § 3,
 1860, 1, § 3,
 1861, 42, § 2,
 1862, 39, § 7,
 1863, 1, § 3,
 1864, 1, § 55,
 56,
 1883, 239, § 1,
 1884, 140, § 322,
 §§ 2, 5,
 1889, 414,
 §§ 1, 15,
 1892, 425,
 §§ 1, 4,
 1893, 256,
 1895, 483,
 §§ 2, 7,
 1900, 451,
 §§ 4, 6.

He may, with the approval of the governor and council, appoint and fix the compensation of an assistant commissioner, who shall discharge the duties of the commissioner during his absence or disability and perform such other duties as the commissioner may prescribe. The commissioner shall appoint and may remove such agents and subordinate officers as the department may deem necessary, and shall fix their compensation. Physicians, pathologists, and psychiatrists shall be exempt from chapter thirty-one.

SECTION 5. The boards of trustees of the following public institutions shall serve in the department: Boston Psychopathic Hospital, Boston State Hospital, Danvers State Hospital, Foxborough State Hospital, Gardner State Colony, Grafton State Hospital, Massachusetts School for the Feeble-minded, Medfield State Hospital, Monson State Hospital, Norfolk State Hospital, Northampton State Hospital, Taunton State Hospital, Westborough State Hospital, Worcester State Hospital and Wrentham State School.

1914, 358; 442, §§ 1-3.
 1915, 79, §§ 1-3.

1919, 350, § 81.
 1920, 537.

SECTION 6. The board of trustees for each of the institutions mentioned in the preceding section, except the Massachusetts School for the Feeble-minded, shall consist of seven members, five men and two women; provided, that the board of trustees of the Norfolk State Hospital shall consist of seven men. One member of each board, except as aforesaid, shall annually in January be appointed for seven years from the first Wednesday of the following February by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council. The board of trustees of the Massachusetts School for the Feeble-minded shall consist of six members on the part of the commonwealth, one of whom shall annually be appointed for six years by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, and of six members to be elected by the school, subject to the approval of the governor and council. All the above trustees shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for all expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

R. L. 87, §§ 14,
 18-22, 26, 113, 114,
 1902, 542,
 1906, 508, §§ 1, 2.

1908, 613, § 2,
 1909, 504, §§ 13, 17,
 59, 60, 107,
 1914, 358.

1915, 79, § 4,
 1918, Sp. 119,
 1919, 350, § 81,
 1920, 537, § 2.

Chapter 123, General Laws.

COMMITMENT AND CARE OF THE INSANE AND OTHER MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

SECT.

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2. Care of the insane, feeble-minded, epileptic, etc.

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6. Department to hold land in trust.
7. Management of state hospitals by department.
8. Department, duties relative to new construction.
9. Department, and trustees, semi-annual meetings.
10. Department to establish hospital districts.
11. Department to encourage scientific investigations, reports, etc.
12. Department may establish free clinics for feeble-minded.
13. Department may establish registry of feeble-minded, etc.
14. Department shall visit institutions.
15. Annual report.
16. Boarding out of insane persons by department and by trustees.
17. Persons boarded out. Bills for board, how paid.
18. Removal of neglected boarders; temporary release.
19. Agents to visit persons boarded in families.
20. Department, general power to transfer.
21. Transfers from private institutions and of voluntary patients.
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23. Department to apply for commitment, when.
24. Department to prescribe forms.

SECT.

LIST OF STATE HOSPITALS.

25. List of state hospitals.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF TRUSTEES, ETC., OF STATE HOSPITALS.

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27. Trustees, certain powers and duties.
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29. Trustees, additional powers and duties.
30. Instruction of patients, etc.
31. Visits to persons boarded out.
32. Supervision of accounts by trustees.

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33. Private institutions to be licensed.
34. Private institutions, unlicensed. Penalty.

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35. Restraint regulated.
36. Restraint, custody of implements.
37. Restraint, records of, etc. Definition.
38. Penalty.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS AFFECTING INSTITUTIONS.

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40. Fire apparatus and escapes.
41. Trustees, etc., to furnish information to department, etc.
42. Certain employees exempt from civil service rules.
43. Westborough state hospital, superintendent and assistant physicians.
44. Norfolk state hospital.
45. Massachusetts school for the feeble-minded, and Wrentham state school, departments of.
46. Same. Reception and classification of pupils in.
47. Same. Voluntary admission of certain feeble-minded persons.