



## Legislation Summary:

### An Act relative to archaic crimes

Initial bill number: [S805](#) (Bill numbers will change as legislation proceeds.)

Sponsor: Sen. Cynthia Creem

This bill repeals laws that are no longer applicable, acceptable, necessary, or enforced such as laws prohibiting adultery and the advertising for birth control as well as laws affecting the rights of homeless people.

Here is a description of what would be changed by each section of the bill:

Section 1: Repeals law calling for a prison term and fine for committing adultery.

Section 2: Repeals law against “fornication,” which is not defined.

Section 3: Repeals the law prohibiting any advertising or information about obtaining an abortion or prevention of pregnancy.

Section 4: Repeals the law outlawing and establishing a prison term for selling, lending, giving away or exhibiting any drug, medicine, instrument or article for prevention of conception or for causing an abortion; or for publishing any type of information on where such items can be purchased; or for manufacturing those items.

Section 5: Repeals the law that permits sale of contraceptives only to married couples.

Section 6: Removes prohibition on “crimes against nature” applied to humans but adds prohibitions against sexual abuse of animals.

Section 7: Repeals law prohibiting blasphemy.

Section 8: Repeals law against begging by “tramps.”

Section 9: Repeals law against “tramps” entering buildings, threatening people or carrying a weapon.

Section 10: Repeals law allowing arrest of “tramps” without a warrant.

Section 11: Repeals law against begging by “vagrants.”

Section 12: Repeals law allowing arrest of “vagrants” without a warrant.

Section 13: Repeals law defining a “vagabond” and allow for arrest.

Section 14: Repeals law allowing arrest of “vagabonds” without a warrant.

**League position:** From Where We Stand, p. 52: Reproductive Choices: Goal: Freedom of individuals to make informed reproductive decisions based on their own convictions and beliefs. (1972)

The League supports: • emphasis on preventive measures to avoid unwanted pregnancies • access to family planning information, services and devices to people who want them • wide

distribution of information about contraception and sterilization • public funding for birth control and abortion services for the poor • research on birth control methods  
The League opposes restrictive birth control and abortion laws.