

nineteen hundred and seventy, and may appropriate from available funds the sum of three thousand five hundred dollars to carry out the terms of said contract.

SECTION 2. Any action taken by the town of Swansea at the special town meeting held on July the thirteenth, nineteen hundred and seventy, shall be as valid and effective as though section one of this act had been in full force and effect at the time of the posting of the warrant for said meeting.

*Approved August 11, 1970.*

**Chap. 656.** AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF BROOKLINE TO MAKE CERTAIN ADDITIONAL MOVING COSTS AND RELOCATION PAYMENTS TO PERSONS AND BUSINESSES DISPLACED BY THE EXPANSION OF THE PIERCE SCHOOL.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the limitations contained in section six A of chapter seventy-nine and section one of chapter seventy-nine A of the General Laws, the town of Brookline is hereby authorized to pay to certain individuals, families and business concerns who were displaced on or after April the fourteenth, nineteen hundred and seventy, as the result of the acquisition of land by purchase or taking by said town for the expansion of the Pierce School, such sums as are equal to the moving cost payments and relocation payments paid by the federal government to displaced persons or businesses, notwithstanding the fact that said town is ineligible to receive any federal reimbursement therefor. Any such payments shall not include reimbursement or compensation for any expenses or losses for which reimbursement or compensation would otherwise be paid.

SECTION 2. The action taken by said town under Article Five of the warrant for the special town meeting held on June the sixteenth, nineteen hundred and seventy, pursuant to the authority granted by section one of this act, shall be as valid and as effective as though this act had been in full force and effect at the time of the posting of the warrant for said meeting.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved August 12, 1970.*

**Chap. 657.** AN ACT INCREASING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS.

*Whereas,* The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide forthwith an increase in unemployment compensation benefits to individuals whose benefit years begin on or after October the fourth of the current year, on which date a lesser increase was to have taken effect, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 29 of chapter 151A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out subsection (a), as most recently amended

by section 4 of chapter 614 of the acts of 1969, and inserting in place thereof the following subsection: —

(a) An individual in total unemployment and otherwise eligible for benefits whose average weekly wage in his base period is sixty-six dollars or less shall be paid for each week of unemployment an amount based on the highest quarterly wage of his base period, as provided in the following table:

<i>Total Wages Paid in Highest Quarter.</i>	<i>Weekly Benefit Rate.</i>
\$225.00 - 259.00	\$12.00
260.00 - 281.99	13.00
282.00 - 303.99	14.00
304.00 - 325.99	15.00
326.00 - 346.99	16.00
347.00 - 368.99	17.00
369.00 - 390.99	18.00
391.00 - 411.99	19.00
412.00 - 433.99	20.00
434.00 - 455.99	21.00
456.00 - 476.99	22.00
477.00 - 498.99	23.00
499.00 - 520.99	24.00
521.00 - 541.99	25.00
542.00 - 573.99	26.00
574.00 - 615.99	27.00
616.00 - 657.99	28.00
658.00 - 699.99	29.00
700.00 - 741.99	30.00
742.00 - 783.99	31.00
784.00 - 825.99	32.00
826.00 - 858.00	33.00
858.01 and over	34.00

An individual in total unemployment and otherwise eligible for benefits whose average weekly wage in his base period exceeds sixty-six dollars shall be paid for each week of unemployment an amount equal to fifty per cent of his average weekly wage in the base period, rounded to the next highest dollar, but not more than fifty-two and one half per cent of the average weekly wage of all employees covered by this chapter. On or before the first day of October of each year, the total wages reported on contribution reports for the twelve months ending March the thirty-first of such year shall be divided by the average monthly number of insured employees (determined by dividing the total insured employees reported on contribution reports for the twelve months ending March the thirty-first by twelve). The average annual wage thus obtained shall be divided by fifty-two and the average weekly wage thus determined, rounded to the nearest cent. Fifty-two and one half per cent of this amount, rounded to the next highest dollar, shall establish the maximum weekly benefit rate paid any individual whose benefit year commences on or after the first Sunday of October of each year and prior to the first Sunday of October the following year.

SECTION 2. Section one of this act shall take effect on October the fourth, nineteen hundred and seventy, and shall apply only to individuals whose benefit years begin on or after said effective date.

*Approved August 12, 1970.*