

All duly existing contracts, leases, and obligations of the Dukes County Planning and Economic Development Commission which are in force immediately prior to the repeal of said chapter six hundred and ninety shall be transferred to the commission as of the date of the repeal of said chapter. All petitions, hearings, and other proceedings duly brought before, and all prosecutions and legal and other proceedings duly begun by the Dukes County Planning and Economic Development Commission which arise from or relate to the exercise of the powers or duties of said commission and which are pending immediately prior to the repeal of said chapter six hundred and ninety, shall continue unabated and remain in force notwithstanding the repeal of said chapter.

In addition to performing its functions under this act, the commission may perform any function assigned to it under federal law.

SECTION 20. The provisions of this act are severable, and if any of its provisions shall be held unconstitutional or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the decision of such court shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions.

Approved July 27, 1974.

Chap. 638. AN ACT ABOLISHING THE WALDEN POND STATE RESERVATION COMMISSION AND TRANSFERRING THE CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF THE WALDEN POND STATE RESERVATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The Walden pond state reservation commission, established by chapter four hundred and ninety-nine of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-two, is hereby abolished, and the care and maintenance of the Walden Pond State Reservation including all of its facilities and equipment is hereby transferred to the department of natural resources.

The full-time permanent employees of said commission shall, on the effective date of this act, be transferred to positions within the department of natural resources, without impairment of seniority, retirement, vacation or other rights, and shall not be lowered in rank or compensation nor subjected to a qualifying examination or the serving of a probationary period and shall be deemed to be permanently appointed thereto under the provisions of chapter thirty-one of the General Laws.

SECTION 2. The balance, on the effective date of this act, of all monies appropriated for the maintenance and operation of the Walden Pond State Reservation in the hands of the county treasurer of Middlesex county shall be credited to Middlesex county; provided, however, that said county shall pay all bills or obligations incurred by the Walden pond state reservation commission for such operation and maintenance prior to said effective date.

SECTION 3. Whenever used in any general or special law, ordinance or by-law the words "Walden pond state reservation commission" shall mean the department of natural resources.

SECTION 4. A Walden pond board of directors consisting of seven residents of Middlesex county is hereby established. Said residents shall be appointed by the commissioner of natural resources. The board shall advise the department of natural resources on the care, maintenance, development and use of Walden pond.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect on January first, nineteen hundred and seventy-five.

Approved July 26, 1974.

Chap. 639. AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DIVISION OF STATE POLICE.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to forthwith regulate the administration of the division of state police, therefore, it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the preservation of the public safety and convenience.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 22 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 3B, inserted by section 1 of chapter 749 of the acts of 1969, and inserting in place thereof the following section:—

Section 3B. There shall be within the division of state police a narcotics section. The commissioner may from time to time assign to said section such members of the state police and other assistants as he may deem necessary to carry out the duties of said section.

SECTION 2. The first paragraph of section 6 of said chapter 22, as most recently amended by section 2 of chapter 486 of the acts of 1958, is hereby further amended by adding the following sentence:— The commissioner shall establish the requirements and qualifications for officers and inspectors appointed pursuant to this section.

SECTION 3. The second paragraph of section 9A of said chapter 22, as most recently amended by chapter 521 of the acts of 1971, is hereby further amended by striking out the second sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:— Any officer appointed under this section who has served for one year or more, against whom charges have been preferred, shall be tried by a court to be appointed by the deputy superintendent, with the approval of the commissioner, or a court to be appointed by any other commissioned officer designated by the commissioner, or, at the request of the officer, may be tried by a court consisting of the deputy superintendent, with the consent of the commissioner, or a court consisting of any other commanding officer designated by the commissioner.

SECTION 4. The first paragraph of section 9D of said chapter 22, as appearing in section 3 of chapter 1004 of the acts of 1971, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 2, the words "of the uniformed branch".