

Absent voters may vote, when.

466 of the acts of 1945, the word: — attending, — so as to read as follows: — *Section 86.* Any voter who on the day of the biennial state election is absent from the city or town where he is registered or who will be unable by reason of physical disability to cast his vote in person at the polling place, and whose application for an official absent voting ballot has been filed with the city or town clerk as provided in section eighty-nine, or with the state secretary, and certified under section ninety-one, may vote in accordance with sections eighty-seven to one hundred and three, inclusive; provided, that a voter who is in a penal institution under sentence shall not be entitled or permitted to avail himself of the provisions of this and the seventeen following sections; and provided, further, that a voter who will be unable by reason of physical disability to cast his vote in person at the polling place shall file with the city or town clerk with his application for an official absent voting ballot a certificate executed by a registered physician, attending registered nurse, superintendent of a hospital or like institution or a practitioner of the Christian Science Church, stating that the voter will be unable by reason of physical disability to cast his vote in person at the polling place on the day of election.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 54, § 87, etc., amended.

SECTION 2. Clause (b) of section 87 of said chapter 54 is hereby amended by striking out the heading, "Certificate of Physician, Hospital Superintendent, Registered Nurse or Christian Science Practitioner", as appearing in section 2 of said chapter 466, and inserting in place thereof the following: — Certificate of Physician, Hospital Superintendent, Attending Registered Nurse or Christian Science Practitioner.

Preparation of absent voting ballots, applications, etc.

Approved March 15, 1951.

Chap.154 AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE INVESTMENTS OF DOMESTIC INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 175, § 63, etc., amended.

Section 63 of chapter 175 of the General Laws, as amended, is hereby further amended by inserting after paragraph 14A, inserted by section 8 of chapter 266 of the acts of 1947, the following paragraph: —

Investments of domestic insurance companies.

14B. In the shares of federal savings and loan associations having a usual place of business within the commonwealth, but not exceeding ten thousand dollars and accrued dividends thereon in the shares of any such association.

Approved March 15, 1951.

Chap.155 AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE USE OF THE COMMON AND TOWN LANDING PLACES IN THE TOWN OF DARTMOUTH.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section 1 of chapter 438 of the acts of 1947 is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 3 to 5, inclusive, the words "in such manner as will keep them free from encumbrances;

and for that and other purposes mentioned in this act" and inserting in place thereof the words: —, and may, — so as to read as follows:— *Section 1.* The inhabitants of the town of Dartmouth shall have jurisdiction over all common and town landings therein, with power to govern, control and regulate them, and may make such by-laws and adopt such rules and regulations not inconsistent with the laws of the commonwealth as they shall deem proper to carry into effect the provisions of this act. The selectmen of said town shall have the immediate custody of said landings and the duty of enforcing such by-laws, rules and regulations as shall be made or adopted by the town.

Approved March 15, 1951.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CRUELTY TO DOGS.

Chap. 156

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 140 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 156, as amended by section 19 of chapter 320 of the acts of 1934, and inserting in place thereof the following section:— *Section 156.* Any person may kill a dog which suddenly assaults him while he is peaceably standing, walking or riding outside the enclosure of its owner or keeper; and any person may kill a dog found out of the enclosure of its owner or keeper and not under his immediate care in the act of worrying, wounding or killing persons, live stock or fowls, and if any person shall kill or attempt to kill a dog so found, and in the act of worrying, wounding or killing persons, live stock or fowls, he shall not be held liable for cruelty to the dog unless it shall be shown that he intended to be cruel to the dog, or that he acted with a wanton and reckless disregard for the suffering of the dog. Prompt killing of a wounded dog, or a prompt report to the owner or to a dog officer of the wounding of the dog, shall be considered evidence of sufficient regard for the suffering of the dog.

Approved March 15, 1951.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 140, § 156, etc., amended.

Dogs attacking persons, etc., may be killed.

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT PROVISIONAL PROMOTIONS UNDER THE CIVIL SERVICE LAWS TO OFFICES OR POSITIONS IN THE OFFICIAL OR LABOR SERVICE SHALL, UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, BE CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD TO BE SERVED IN SUCH OFFICES OR POSITIONS.

Chap. 157

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 31 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 15E, inserted by chapter 540 of the acts of 1946, the following section:— *Section 15F.* Any person who is appointed to a permanent position after certification may, upon request of the appointing authority and the approval of the director, be provisionally promoted prior to the completion of the probationary period to a position in the next higher grade in the same department or division of

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 31, new § 15F, added.

Provisional appointments, etc., to certain vacancies in the labor service.