
Chap. 235

SECTION 6. Section 4 of chapter 176G of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 43 to 45, inclusive, the words "three months after their third birthday or until September first of the year of the recipient's third birthday if the recipient was born after April first" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- their third birthday.

SECTION 7. Said section 4 of said chapter 176G, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in lines 47 to 49, inclusive, the words "two thousand four hundred dollars per year per child and an aggregate benefit of eight thousand dollars over the total enrollment period" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- \$3,200 per year per child and an aggregate benefit of \$9,600 over the total enrollment period.

Approved December 24, 1997.

Chapter 236. AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE FRANKLIN COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The first paragraph of section 1 of chapter 956 of the acts of 1973 is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:- There is hereby created in Franklin county, hereinafter referred to as county, a public body politic and corporate to be known as the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority, hereinafter referred to as the authority.

SECTION 2. Section 2 of said chapter 956 is hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph, as amended by section 1 of chapter 73 of the acts of 1975, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3A of chapter 121B of the General Laws, and except as may otherwise be provided herein, and notwithstanding the existence of a local housing or redevelopment authority organized in any town, the authority shall be deemed to be, and within every town in the county, shall have the rights, powers and obligations of, a housing authority and a redevelopment authority organized under the provisions of said chapter 121B, except with respect to any project or activity heretofore undertaken on a particular site or location by a local housing or redevelopment authority organized in a town. Every town in the county shall have the same rights, powers, and obligations with respect to projects and activities of the authority in such town as are provided in said chapter 121B for a city or town in which a housing authority or a redevelopment authority has been created.

SECTION 3. The second paragraph of said section 2 of said chapter 956 is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence, as amended by section 2 of said chapter 73, and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:- In addition, any local housing or local redevelopment authority organized in a town within the county, whether organized prior to or subsequent to the creation of the authority by this act, shall have the rights, powers, and obligations of a housing or redevelopment authority respectively under said chapter 121B,

except with respect to any project or activity heretofore undertaken on a particular site by the said regional housing and redevelopment authority.

SECTION 4. The third paragraph of said section 2 of said chapter 956 is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:- The relationship within any town between the authority and any local housing or local redevelopment authority regarding operating procedures and management of projects or programs shall be as specified in any resolution approved as provided in section 3 and on matters not covered by such resolution, shall be as mutually agreed upon by the two authorities, or in the absence of such agreement, as shall be determined by the department, not inconsistent with the department's regulations.

SECTION 5. Said section 2 of said chapter 956 is hereby further amended by striking out the fourth paragraph, as amended by section 1 of chapter 509 of the acts of 1979, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

The authority shall annually make a report of its activities, receipts, and expenditures to the commissioner, to the department, to the state auditor, and to the selectmen and housing or redevelopment authority, if any, of each of the towns in the county, in accordance with the provisions of section 29 of said chapter 121B. The Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority, in addition to the powers conferred upon it by said chapter 121B shall have the power to make grants or loans, including loans secured by real estate mortgages, to private property owners for rehabilitation or creation of housing units for low and moderate income persons.

SECTION 6. The first paragraph of section 3 of said chapter 956 is hereby amended by striking out the first four sentences and inserting in place thereof the following four sentences:- Prior to taking, purchasing, or otherwise acquiring the fee in any real property, the authority shall submit a resolution authorizing such acquisition to, in the case of property sought to be acquired for a housing project or activity, to the housing authority of the town in which the real property is located, or in the case of an urban renewal project or activity or other activity to be undertaken pursuant to its own powers as a redevelopment authority, to the redevelopment authority of the town in which the real property is located, or if no housing or redevelopment authority, as the case may be, has been organized in said town, to its board of selectmen. No such taking, purchase or acquisition shall be completed until 30 calendar days have elapsed following the approval of such resolution by the local housing or redevelopment authority, or selectmen, as the case may be, or unless approved by a vote of town meeting as provided below. Upon the expiration of 30 calendar days from the date of submittal without either approval or disapproval by the housing authority or redevelopment authority, or selectmen, as the case may be, the resolution shall be deemed approved. The local housing authority, redevelopment authority or selectmen shall include in their consideration of each such resolution the housing or redevelopment needs, the consistency of the proposed action with local plans, and the health, safety, welfare and convenience of all the persons residing in the town.

SECTION 7. The second paragraph of said section 3 of said chapter 956 is hereby amended by inserting after the word "authority", in line 3, the following words:-, local rede-

Chap. 236.

velopment authority.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved December 24, 1997.

Chapter 237. AN ACT RELATIVE TO QUARTERLY TAXES IN CITIES AND TOWNS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 57C of chapter 59 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1996 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the eighth paragraph the following two paragraphs:-

Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraph, whenever such actual tax bills cannot be mailed by December 31, an additional notice of preliminary tax may be issued and payment of a third quarter preliminary installment may be required; provided, however, that no such additional notice of preliminary tax may issue unless first approved by the commissioner of revenue; and provided, further, that as a condition of such approval, the commissioner may establish such requirements as he deems appropriate, which may include, but not be limited to, the submission by the board of assessors of all information required to set the tax rate under the provisions of section 23, except the assessed valuation of all real and personal property subject to taxation for the current fiscal year. The assessors shall establish the tax rate for the fiscal year no later than April 1. In no event shall the net amount of revenue to be raised by taxation, as submitted to the commissioner pursuant to any such requirements for approval under this section, be exceeded, except to the extent that additional new growth, as certified by the commissioner pursuant to paragraph (f) of section 21C, exceeds the prior approved amount and a referendum question submitted to the voters under the provisions of paragraph (g), (i½), (j) or (k) of said section 21C has been approved.

In the event an additional notice of preliminary tax requiring a third quarter preliminary installment payment is issued by a city or town, such notice shall be mailed on or before December 31, or such later date as may be authorized by the commissioner, and such entire notice shall be due and payable on February 1, or 30 days after the date of mailing such notice, whichever is later, after which date if unpaid, it shall become delinquent. The amount of any third quarter preliminary installment payment shall not exceed the amount of the first quarter installment payment for the fiscal year as provided in this section. The actual tax bill issued upon the establishment of the tax rate for the fiscal year, after credit is given for the preliminary tax payments previously made, shall be due and payable on May 1, or 30 days after the date of mailing such bill, whichever is later, after which date if unpaid, it shall become delinquent. Such bill shall represent the full balance owed after credit is given for the preliminary tax payments previously made. All provisions of this section regarding procedures for issuing, mailing and collecting the notice of preliminary tax requiring first and second quarter preliminary installment payments shall be applicable to any additional notice of preliminary tax, including payment of interest.