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ways in the town, and provide for the assessment of betterments to the owners of the property abutting said ways to defray the cost of the improvements. The order shall be adopted and recorded at the Barnstable county registry of deeds within 90 days from the effective date of this act.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding sections 1 and 2 of chapter 80 of the General Laws, sections 26 and 27 of chapter 83 of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the town of Chatham may assess and collect such betterment assessments within six months of the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3 of chapter 79 of the General Laws, section 24 of chapter 82 of the General Laws or any other ge special law to the contrary, the board of selectmen of the town of Chatham may adopt and record an order of taking by eminent domain of all interests in real estate authorized to be taken by the Chatham town meeting pursuant to Article 27 of the 1997 annual town meeting warrant and Article 18 of the 1998 annual town meeting warrant. Such order of taking shall be adopted and recorded within six months from the effective date of this act.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved January 12, 2001.

Chapter 416. AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE ELECTION OF TOWN MEETING MEMBERS IN SOUTH HADLEY.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The first paragraph of section 2 of chapter 45 of the acts of 1933, as appearing in section 1 of chapter 661 of the acts of 1987, is hereby amended by striking out the word "forty-two", each time it appears, and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following figure:- 30.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved January 12, 2001.

Chapter 417. AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE BROCKTON RETIREMENT BOARD TO AUTHORIZE CREDITABLE SERVICE FOR GEORGE W. MOORE, JR.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

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SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 6 of chapter 32 of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, and in order to promote the public good, the Brockton retirement board shall credit George W. Moore, Jr., a fire alarm operator in the Brockton fire department, with an additional three years of creditable service for time served in the United States Air Force, for the purposes of determining his ordinary disability retirement allowance pursuant to said section 6 of said chapter 32. Eligibility for said creditable service shall be conditioned upon payment to the employee's retirement system of an amount equal to 10 per cent of the regular annual compensation he received when he entered the retirement system. Such payment shall be made in one sum, or in installments, as the Brockton retirement board shall prescribe. Said George W. Moore, Jr. shall be entitled to and shall receive all annual cost of living adjustments to his annual pension granted under section 102 of said chapter 32 or any other general or special law.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved January 12, 2001.

Chapter 418. AN ACT DIRECTING THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR ABATEMENT OF TAXES ON BEHALF OF CERTAIN TAXPAYERS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, the commissioner of revenue shall accept applications for abatement of tax on behalf of the following taxpayers for the tax year 1994: Peter P. and Marlene Phildius of the town of Wayland; Michael and Susan Kenyon of the town of Wayland; and Douglas and Jan Scott of the town of Dover. Such applications shall be considered timely if filed with said commissioner within 90 days from the effective date of this act. Any abatement paid pursuant to these applications shall not include payment of interest or of any costs related to the filing of the applications.

Approved January 12, 2001.

Chapter 419. AN ACT INCREASING REINSURANCE CAPACITY IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 20A of chapter 175 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 4, the words "subsection two" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- this subsection.