

Chap. 99. AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF QUINCY TO BORROW MONEY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING TO BE USED BY THE REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The commonwealth, acting by and through the superintendent of buildings, and the city of Quincy may enter into an agreement for the leasing or purchasing by the commonwealth of the whole or a part of a building to be constructed by said city to provide adequate accommodation for the branch office of the registry of motor vehicles in said city.

SECTION 2. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of any agreement that may be entered into pursuant to section one, the city of Quincy may borrow from time to time such sums as may be necessary, not exceeding, in the aggregate, two hundred thousand dollars, and may issue bonds or notes therefor which shall bear on their face the words, City of Quincy, Registry of Motor Vehicles Loan, Act of 1968. Each authorized issue shall constitute a separate loan and such loans shall be paid in not more than twenty years from their dates. Indebtedness incurred under this act shall be in excess of the statutory limit, but shall, except as herein provided, be subject to chapter forty-four of the General Laws, exclusive of the limitation contained in the first paragraph of section seven thereof.

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

Approved March 29, 1968.

Chap. 100. AN ACT PROVIDING THAT A LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT MAY CONTRIBUTE THE FULL AMOUNT OF A SUBSIDIARY OR ADDITIONAL RATE FOR GROUP LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE COVERING CERTAIN ACTIVE AND RETIRED EMPLOYEES AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose which is to authorize forthwith certain political subdivisions of the commonwealth to pay the full amount of a subsidiary or additional rate which may be used to pay the increase in the premium required for supplementary medical insurance benefits for the aged as determined under Part B of the Health Insurance for the Aged Act (Public Law 89-97), for active and retired employees of the political subdivision insured under Medicare and the political subdivision's Optional Medicare Extension health insurance coverage, 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. Chapter 32B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 7 the following section: —

Section 7A. A governmental unit which has accepted the provisions of section ten and which accepts the provisions of this section may, as a part of the total monthly cost of contracts of insurance authorized by sections three and eleven C, with contributions as required by section seven, make payment of a subsidiary or additional rate which may be lower or higher than a premium determined by the governmental unit

to be paid by the insured, the combination of which shall result in the governmental unit making payment of more, but not less, than fifty per cent of the total monthly cost for such insurance.

(a) With respect to any period of insurance which is in effect for an active or retired employee and dependent, there shall be withheld from each payment of salary, wages, other compensation, pension or retirement allowance, subject to the provisions of section nine E, fifty per cent of a premium for the insurance of the employee and his dependents and the governmental unit shall contribute the remaining fifty per cent of such premium together with any subsidiary or additional rate. The governmental unit shall also contribute fifty per cent of a premium together with any subsidiary or additional rate which may be required of an employee's dependent child who is nineteen years of age or over and mentally or physically incapable of earning his own living.

(b) If an active or retired employee is entitled to receive, during a calendar month, salary, wages, other compensation, pension or retirement allowance, and the premium has not been withheld from said salary, wages, other compensation, pension or retirement allowance, he may continue his insurance in effect by paying directly to the governmental unit the premium which would otherwise have been deducted from his salary or pension and said governmental unit shall contribute the remaining fifty per cent of the premium together with any subsidiary or additional rate. If an employee is not entitled to receive salary, wages or other compensation for a calendar month, for purposes of this chapter, he shall be deemed to have been granted a leave of absence without pay, and he shall make payment for the entire cost of his insurance to the governmental unit as aforesaid, and there shall be no contribution by the governmental unit for such employee's insurance. If an employee is not entitled to receive salary, wages or other compensation for any calendar month, due to illness of such employee and not because of illness of his immediate family, for purposes of this section he shall be deemed to have been granted sick leave without pay, and subject to the rules and regulations of the appropriate public authority, said employee shall make payment of fifty per cent of the premium for his insurance to the treasurer of the governmental unit, and such governmental unit shall contribute the remaining fifty per cent of such premium together with any subsidiary or additional rate.

(c) All amounts withheld from an employee's salary, wages or other compensation as provided in paragraph (a) of this section and all amounts paid by an employee as provided in paragraph (b) of this section and all amounts withheld from retired employees as retirement allowances under the provisions of section nineteen A of chapter thirty-two together with the contribution of the governmental unit as provided in paragraph (a) shall be paid by the treasurer of the governmental unit to the carrier or carriers entitled to the total premium and subsidiary or additional rate, if any.

(d) This section shall take effect in a county, city, town or district upon its acceptance in the following manner: — In a county by vote of the county commissioners; in a city having a Plan D or Plan E charter by majority vote of its city council; in any other city by vote of its city council, approved by the mayor; in a district, except as hereinafter provided, by vote of the registered voters of the district at a district meet-

ing; in a regional school district by vote of the regional district school committee; in a veterans' services district by vote of the district board; in a welfare district by vote of the district welfare committee; in a health district established under section twenty-seven A of chapter one hundred and eleven by vote of the joint committee; and in a town by submission for acceptance to the registered voters in the form of the following question which shall be printed upon the official ballot to be used at an election: — "Shall the town, in addition to the payment of fifty per cent of a premium for contributory group life and health insurance for employees in the service of the town and their dependents, pay a subsidiary or additional rate?" Section seven shall not apply in any governmental unit which accepts the provisions of this section.

§3 SECTION 2. Said chapter 32B is hereby further amended by inserting after section 9D the following section: —

Section 9E. A county by vote of the county commissioners; a city having a Plan D or Plan E charter by majority vote of its city council; in any other city by vote of its city council, approved by the mayor; a district, except as hereinafter provided, by vote of the registered voters of the district at a district meeting; a regional school district by vote of the regional district school committee; a veterans' services district by vote of the district board; a welfare district by vote of the district welfare committee; a health district established under section twenty-seven A of chapter one hundred and eleven by vote of the joint committee may provide that it will pay in addition to fifty per cent of a stated monthly premium as described in section seven A for contracts of insurance authorized by sections three and eleven C, a subsidiary or additional rate which may be lower or higher than the aforesaid premium and the remaining fifty per cent of said premium is to be paid by a retired employee under the provisions of the first sentence of section nine. A town may provide for such payment if a majority of the votes cast in answer to the following question which shall be printed on the official ballot to be used at an election in said town is in the affirmative: — "Shall the town, in addition to the payment of fifty per cent of a premium for contributory group life and health insurance for employees retired from the service of the town, and their dependents, pay a subsidiary or additional rate?" Section nine A shall not apply in any governmental unit which accepts the provisions of this section.

SECTION 3. Section 9 of said chapter 32B, as most recently amended by section 5 of chapter 841 of the acts of 1965, is hereby further amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: —

The policy or policies of insurance shall provide that upon retirement of an employee, the policy or policies providing two thousand dollars of group life insurance and two thousand dollars of group accidental death and dismemberment insurance; as set forth in section five, except the optional coverage referred to therein, shall be reduced to one thousand dollars of group life insurance and the retired employee shall make payment of the full premium cost, subject to the provisions of section nine A or nine E, whichever may be applicable, of the average group premium as determined by the appropriate public authority for the group life insurance; and the group general or blanket insurance providing hospital, surgical, medical and other health insurance, as provided under sections four and eleven C, as may be applicable, shall be

continued and the retired employee shall pay the full premium cost, subject to the provisions of section nine A or section nine E whichever may be applicable of the average group premium as determined by the appropriate public authority for such hospital, surgical, medical and other health insurance.

SECTION 4. Section 3 of said chapter 32B is hereby amended by striking out the eighth and ninth sentences and inserting in place thereof the following two sentences: — If a town or district accepts the provisions of this chapter as provided under section ten and as further provided under sections seven A and nine E but fails to appropriate the funds necessary to implement said provisions, the selectmen, in the case of a town, or the prudential committee or district commissioners, in the case of a district, shall certify the cost to the town or district, as the case may be, in carrying out the provisions of this chapter to the board of assessors who shall include the amount so certified in the determination of the tax rate of that year. If a city accepts the provisions of this chapter as provided under section ten and as further provided under sections seven A and nine E, the annual budget shall include sums necessary to implement said provisions.

SECTION 5. Section 10 of said chapter 32B is hereby amended by striking out section 10, as most recently amended by section 1 of chapter 373 of the acts of 1967, and inserting in place thereof the following section: —

Section 10. This chapter, except sections seven A, eight A, nine A, nine C, nine D, nine E, eleven A, eleven B, and eleven D, may be accepted in a county by vote of the county commissioners; in a city having a Plan D or Plan E charter by majority vote of its city council, in any other city by vote of its city council, approved by the mayor; in a district, except as hereinafter provided, by vote of the registered voters of the district at a district meeting; in a regional school district by vote of the regional district school committee; in a veterans' services district by vote of the district board; in a welfare district by vote of the district welfare committee; in a health district established under section twenty-seven A of chapter one hundred and eleven by vote of the joint committee; and in a town by submission for acceptance to the registered voters in the form of the following question which shall be printed upon the official ballot to be used at an election: — "Shall certain provisions of chapter thirty-two B of the General Laws, authorizing any county, city, town or district to provide a plan of contributory group life insurance, group accidental death and dismemberment insurance, and group general or blanket hospital, surgical, medical and other health insurance for certain persons in the service of such county, city, town or district and their dependents, be accepted by this town?" If a majority of the voters voting on the question shall vote in the affirmative, this chapter, except sections seven A, eight A, nine A, nine C, nine D, nine E, eleven A, eleven B, and eleven D, shall take effect in such town.

Notwithstanding the provisions of any general law to the contrary, neither the acceptance of this chapter nor the acceptance of any individual section thereof by a governmental unit shall be revoked or rescinded.

Approved March 29, 1968.