

HOUSE No. 1815

By Mr. McDonough of Boston, petition of Patrick J. McDonough for legislation relative to the granting of old age assistance, so called. Pensions.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-One.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE GRANTING OF OLD AGE ASSISTANCE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter one hundred and eighteen A of the General
2 Laws is hereby amended by striking out section four
3 and inserting in place thereof the following: —
4 *Section 4.* The ownership of an equity in vacant
5 land from which no income is derived or in real estate
6 upon which an applicant actually resides shall not
7 disqualify him from receiving assistance under this
8 chapter; provided, that if such equity computed on
9 the basis of assessed valuation, exceeds an average
10 of three thousand dollars during the five years im-
11 mediately preceding his application, the board of
12 public welfare of the town rendering such assistance,
13 or the bureau of old age assistance established by such
14 board, shall, through the appropriate town official,
15 require such applicant to execute a bond in a penal

16 sum at least equal to the amount of the equity in
17 excess of three thousand dollars, running to the treas-
18 urer of the town, conditioned on repayment to such
19 town of all amounts of such assistance, without
20 interest, such bond to be secured by mortgage of
21 the applicant's real estate. Every such bond and
22 mortgage shall be forthwith entered for record in the
23 proper registry of deeds or registry district of the land
24 court, as the case may be, and the register of deeds or
25 assistant recorder of the land court shall thereupon
26 record or register such bond and mortgage without fee.
27 Out of the proceeds realized by the town from any
28 such bond and mortgage or from the estate of a person
29 granted assistance under this chapter, or both, the
30 federal government, through the commonwealth,
31 shall be reimbursed to an amount not exceeding the
32 amount contributed by it in such case and the re-
33 mainder shall be apportioned between the common-
34 wealth and the town furnishing the assistance in
35 proportion to the amounts of their respective con-
36 tributions.