

HOUSE No. 1925

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 10, 1948.

The committee on Bills in the Third Reading, to whom was referred the Bill extending to the Polish-American Veterans of World War II Inc. the benefits of certain laws affecting veterans (printed as Senate, No. 288), report recommending that the same be amended by the substitution of the accompanying bill (House, No. 1925), which also includes the provisions of bill (printed as Senate, No. 287, amended).

For the committee,

ALLEN ROY KINGSTON.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS OF VETERANS TO DRILL AND PARADE WITH FIREARMS.

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

1 Section 49 of chapter 33 of the General Laws, as
2 most recently amended by section 1 of chapter 468
3 of the acts of 1947, is hereby further amended by
4 inserting after the word "Veterans" in line 46 the
5 words: — , the Polish-American Veterans of World
6 War II, Inc., the Lithuanian War Veterans' Organ-
7 ization, Inc., the World War II Veterans' Associa-
8 tion of Hampshire County, Inc., — so as to read as
9 follows: — *Section 49.* Except as provided in sec-
10 tion fifty, no body of men, except the organized
11 militia, the troops of the United States, and the
12 Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massa-
13 chusetts, shall maintain an armory, or associate
14 together at any time as a company or organization,
15 for drill or parade with firearms, or so drill or parade;
16 nor shall any city or town raise or appropriate
17 money toward arming, equipping, uniforming, sup-
18 porting or providing drill rooms or armories for any
19 such body of men; provided, that associations
20 wholly composed of soldiers honorably discharged
21 from the military service of the United States may

22 parade in public with arms, upon the reception of
23 any regiment or company of soldiers returning from
24 said service, and for escort duty at the burial of
25 deceased soldiers, with the written permission of
26 the mayor of the city or selectmen of the city or
27 town where they desire to parade; that students in
28 educational institutions where military science is a
29 prescribed part of the course of instruction or mem-
30 bers of schools for military instruction conducted
31 with the approval of the commander-in-chief may,
32 with the consent of the commander-in-chief drill
33 and parade with firearms in public, under the super-
34 intendence of their instructors or teachers; that
35 foreign troops whose admission to the United States
36 has been consented to by the United States govern-
37 ment may, with the consent of the commander-in-
38 chief, drill and parade with firearms in public; that
39 any body of men may, with the consent of the
40 commander-in-chief, drill and parade in public with
41 any harmless imitation of firearms approved by the
42 adjutant general; that regularly organized posts of
43 the Grand Army of the Republic, The American
44 Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United
45 States, Disabled American Veterans, Department of
46 Massachusetts, and Jewish War Veterans of the
47 United States, and of the American Veterans of
48 World War II, AMVETS — Department of Massa-
49 chusetts, and of the La Legion Franco-Americaine
50 des Etats-Unis d'Amerique and of the Italian-
51 American World War Veterans of the United States,
52 Inc., and of the United American Veterans of the
53 United States of America, Inc., and of the PT Vet-
54 erans Association, Inc., and of the American Portu-
55 guese War Veterans Association, regularly organized

56 camps of the United Spanish War Veterans, regu-
57 larly organized detachments of the Marine Corps
58 League, regularly organized chapters of the Yankee
59 Division Veterans Association, the American Vet-
60 erans' Committee, Inc., and the Massachusetts
61 State Guard Veterans, the Polish-American Vet-
62 erans of World War II, Inc., the Lithuanian War
63 Veterans' Organization, Inc., the World War II
64 Veterans' Association of Hampshire County, Inc.
65 and regularly organized garrisons of the Army and
66 Navy Union, U. S. A., and regularly organized units
67 thereof may drill and parade with firearms in public,
68 under the supervision of their duly authorized officers;
69 that the Kearsarge Association of Naval Veterans,
70 Inc., may at any time parade in public their color
71 guards of not more than twelve men armed with
72 firearms; that the Society of Colonial Wars in the
73 Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Order of the
74 Founders and Patriots of America, the Massachu-
75 setts Society of the Sons of the American Revolution,
76 the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the
77 Commonwealth of Massachusetts, The Society of
78 the War of 1812 in the Commonwealth of Massa-
79 chusetts (Incorporated), and regularly organized
80 branches of any of said societies, may at any time
81 parade in public their uniformed color guards of
82 ten men with firearms; that regularly organized
83 camps or other duly organized units of the Sons of
84 Union Veterans of the Civil War may at any time
85 parade in public their color guards, escorts, and firing
86 parties with firearms, but no such camp or other
87 organized unit shall at any time so parade more
88 than sixteen men; that any organization heretofore
89 authorized by law may parade with side-arms; and

90 that any veteran association composed wholly of
91 past members of the militia of the commonwealth
92 may maintain an armory for the use of the organ-
93 izations of the militia to which its members belonged;
94 provided, that such drill or parade is not in con-
95 travention of the laws of the United States.

