

HOUSE No. 2066

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 13, 1948.

The committee on Conservation, to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 560) of Norman H. Cook and others that the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries of the Department of Conservation be authorized to investigate problems affecting the shellfish industries and to enter into agreements with the federal government and private corporations in respect thereto, and the report of the special commission (including members of the General Court) established (under Chapter 65 of the Resolves of 1945 and revived and continued under Chapter 77 of the Resolves of 1946 and Chapter 43 of the Resolves of 1947) to make an investigation and study relative to edible shellfish and shellfish chlorinating plants (House, No. 1770, App. III), report (in part on House, No. 1770) the accompanying bill (House, No. 2066).

For the committee,

JOHN A. ARMSTRONG.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES TO INVESTIGATE AND STUDY METHODS FOR THE TREATMENT OR PURIFICATION AND THE PROPAGATION OF SHELLFISH, AND TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS FOR SUCH PURPOSES.

1 *Whereas*, The existing conditions in the shellfish
2 industry make it urgent that the provisions of this
3 act become effective without delay, therefore it is
4 hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary
5 for the immediate preservation of the public health
6 and convenience.

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 1. Section 20 of chapter 130 of the
2 General Laws, as appearing in section 1 of chapter 598
3 of the acts of 1941, is hereby amended by adding at
4 the end the two following paragraphs:—

5 The director, in the operation of any plant for the
6 treatment or purification or propagation of shellfish,
7 is hereby authorized and directed to investigate and
8 study methods for the treatment or purification of
9 shellfish taken from areas determined under section
10 seventy-four to be contaminated. The director, in
11 the course of such investigation, shall confer with the

12 state department of public health and may expend
13 for expert, clerical and other services and expenses
14 such sums as may be appropriated therefor. The
15 director shall, before exercising the authority to assist
16 and co-operate as provided in this section, receive the
17 advice of the biologist of the division and a written
18 opinion from him thereon.

19 The director, acting on behalf of the commonwealth
20 and with the approval of the governor and council,
21 may enter into contracts or agreements with agencies
22 of the federal government or any private institute or
23 corporation for carrying out research and laboratory
24 work necessary for purposes of the treatment or purifi-
25 cation of shellfish and the propagation of shellfish in
26 the coastal areas of the commonwealth, and may ex-
27 pend such sums as may be appropriated for the
28 purpose.

1 SECTION 2. For the purpose of carrying into effect
2 the provisions of the first paragraph of section twenty
3 of chapter one hundred and thirty of the General
4 Laws during the fiscal year ending June thirtieth,
5 nineteen hundred and forty-nine, and the fiscal year
6 ending June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and fifty,
7 the director of the division of marine fisheries may
8 expend, subject to appropriation, in each of said fiscal
9 years the sum of forty thousand dollars, the same to
10 be expended for assisting coastal cities and towns as
11 provided in said section twenty, but such expenditures
12 shall be made as nearly as possible in the following
13 proportions: —

14 (a) For assisting coastal cities and towns in the
15 various counties, as follows: — Essex county, seven
16 thousand dollars; Barnstable county, seven thousand

17 dollars; Plymouth county, five thousand dollars;
18 Dukes county, four thousand dollars; Bristol county,
19 three thousand dollars; Nantucket county, one
20 thousand dollars; other counties, three thousand
21 dollars.

22 (b) For administrative personnel services, eight
23 thousand dollars; for administrative expenses and
24 equipment, two thousand dollars.

25 All expenditures for assistance hereunder shall be
26 made directly as additional assistance and not as
27 reimbursement.

1 SECTION 3. For the construction and maintenance
2 of a purification plant in Essex county, said director of
3 the division of marine fisheries may expend, subject
4 to appropriation, the sum of thirty thousand dollars,
5 and for the construction and maintenance of a shell-
6 fish experiment station in said county, said director
7 may expend, subject to appropriation, the sum of
8 thirty thousand dollars.