

HOUSE No. 2357

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 16, 1952.

The committee on Mercantile Affairs, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 231) of Michael LoPresti that provision be made for further financial assistance by the Commonwealth to housing authorities in order to alleviate the housing shortage for veterans, and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 974) of Coleman C. Curran, Richard A. Ruether and another relative to providing financial assistance to housing authorities in order to alleviate the housing shortage for veterans, report the accompanying bill (House, No. 2357).

For the committee,

JOHN J. BEADES.

Representatives ANTHONY of Haverhill and TANNER of Reading dissenting.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Two.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FURTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY THE COMMONWEALTH TO HOUSING AUTHORITIES IN ORDER TO ALLEVIATE THE HOUSING SHORTAGE FOR VETERANS.

1 *Whereas*, An acute shortage of housing still exists
2 in many of the cities and towns of the commonwealth,
3 despite the construction of substantial numbers of
4 homes under the provisions of chapter two hundred
5 of the acts of nineteen hundred and forty-eight, and
6 on account of such shortage many veterans are unable
7 to obtain shelter for themselves and their families,
8 and this shortage is likely to continue for a substan-
9 tial period of time; and inability to obtain adequate
10 shelter will cause suffering and disease among such
11 veterans unless such shortage is relieved, and this
12 condition has created a public exigency making the
13 provision, as provided by this act, of further financial
14 assistance by the commonwealth to housing authori-
15 ties, in order to alleviate such shortage an immediate
16 public necessity; therefore this act is declared to be
17 an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preser-
18 vation of the public health 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. The second paragraph of subdivision
2 (a) of section 26NN of chapter 121 of the General

3 Laws, as appearing in section 3 of chapter 200 of the
4 acts of 1948, is hereby amended by inserting after
5 the word "hundred", in line 7, the words:— and
6 fifty,— so as to read as follows:— Notwithstanding
7 the provisions of section twenty-six W, the payment
8 of the principal of, and interest on, all such notes
9 and/or bonds shall be guaranteed by the common-
10 wealth, and the full faith and credit of the common-
11 wealth is hereby pledged for any such guarantee;
12 provided, that the total amount of notes and/or bonds
13 so guaranteed shall not exceed two hundred and fifty
14 million dollars in the aggregate for all projects con-
15 structed under this section and section twenty-
16 six OO, exclusive of any such notes and/or bonds
17 which may be issued for refunding purposes.

1 SECTION 2. The fifth paragraph of said section
2 26NN of said chapter 121, as so appearing, is hereby
3 amended by striking out the last sentence and in-
4 serting in place thereof the following sentence:—
5 The board shall accept no application for state finan-
6 cial assistance under this section or section twenty-
7 six OO after five years following the effective date of
8 this section.

1 SECTION 3. Subdivision (b) of said section 26NN
2 of said chapter 121 is hereby amended by striking
3 out the first sentence, as so appearing, and inserting
4 in place thereof the following sentence:— Each con-
5 tract for state financial assistance or supplementary
6 state financial assistance shall provide that the com-
7 monwealth will pay to the housing authority annual
8 contributions; provided, however, that the total
9 amount of annual contributions contracted for by the

10 commonwealth for any one year shall not exceed six
11 million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

1 SECTION 4. The last sentence of the first para-
2 graph of said section 26NN of said chapter 121, as
3 amended by chapter 456 of the acts of 1951, is hereby
4 further amended by inserting after the word “in-
5 come”, in line 12, the words:— and to veterans of
6 low income who have served in the active military or
7 naval service of the United States at any time on or
8 after June twenty-seventh, nineteen hundred and
9 fifty and prior to such date thereafter as shall later
10 be determined by the chairman, — so as to read as
11 follows:— Each project developed under this sec-
12 tion and section twenty-six OO shall be administered
13 for occupancy in accordance with section twenty-
14 six FF, except clause (c), and except that for each
15 project the authority shall create, during not less than
16 the twelve years immediately succeeding its issuance
17 of any bonds, notes or other evidence of indebtedness,
18 a reserve sufficient to meet the largest principal and
19 interest payments which will be due on such bonds in
20 any one year thereafter and shall maintain such re-
21 serve; and except that each such project shall be
22 occupied exclusively by veterans and their families
23 and priority shall be given first to veterans of World
24 War II of low income and to veterans of low income
25 who have served in the active military or naval serv-
26 ice of the United States at any time on or after June
27 twenty-seventh, nineteen hundred and fifty and prior
28 to such date thereafter as shall later be determined
29 by the chairman, then to veterans of low income, such
30 low income to be determined from time to time by
31 the board.

1 SECTION 5. Said section 26NN of said chapter 121
2 is hereby further amended by striking subdivision (e),
3 inserted by chapter 386 of the acts of 1950, and in-
4 serting in place thereof the following: —

5 (e) Any type of housing including one, two and
6 three family dwellings may be constructed under this
7 section notwithstanding the provision that each proj-
8 ect shall conform as nearly as possible, to the existing
9 published requirements of the federal government for
10 low rent or other housing projects, provided that a
11 minimum of fifty per cent of any monies spent under
12 this section in excess of two hundred million dollars
13 shall be used for the purpose of constructing single
14 and duplex dwellings of which minimum twenty per
15 cent must be used to construct single dwellings. In
16 offering residences for sale constructed under this
17 section preference to potential buyers shall be given
18 whenever reasonably possible as follows: — (1) vet-
19 eran tenants of such residences; (2) all other World
20 War II veterans as defined by section twenty-six J;
21 (3) surviving widows and mothers of said veterans of
22 World War II; (4) all other United States war
23 veterans and their surviving widow or mother as
24 long as the veteran was discharged from United States
25 military service under conditions other than dis-
26 honorable; (5) all other resident citizens of the city
27 or town in which the said residences are located;
28 (6) all other citizens of the commonwealth of Massa-
29 chusetts; (7) an urban redevelopment corporation;
30 and (8) all others.

