
By Mr. Kelly of Boston, petition of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor relative to providing subsistence benefits to employees crippled by industrial accidents and their dependents. Labor and Industries.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING SUBSISTENCE BENEFITS TO EMPLOYEES CRIPPLED BY INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS AND THEIR DE- PENDENTS.

*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 37 of chapter 152 of the General
2 Laws is hereby amended by adding the following para-
3 graph at the end thereof: —

4 Whenever an employee or a dependent of a deceased
5 employee has been receiving compensation payments
6 under this chapter for a period of thirteen weeks, he
7 may at any time thereafter, if he finds himself unable to
8 subsist on his weekly compensation, or his weekly com-
9 pensation plus his actual earnings, request a hearing
10 before the industrial accident board, or any member, for
11 a subsistence award to be paid out of the fund created
12 in section sixty-five. Said subsistence award shall con-
13 sist of an amount which, in addition to his weekly com-
14 pensation or his weekly compensation plus his actual
15 earnings, shall provide for the minimum health and de-
16 cency needs of the employee and his dependents. In de-
17 termining said minimum health and decency needs, the
18 board shall refer to studies and reports of governmental
19 agencies and departments of labor, and may use its
20 own knowledge gained on similar cases. Either party
21 may at any time apply for a hearing to increase, decrease
22 or terminate the subsistence award.

1 SECTION 2. The first sentence of section 65 of said
 2 chapter 152 is hereby amended by striking out the words
 3 "five hundred dollars" appearing at the end of said
 4 sentence and substituting in place thereof the words: —
 5 six thousand dollars.