

HOUSE No. 1205

By Mr. Cronin of Cambridge, petition of Edward W. Toomey for legislation to extend the law relative to old age assistance to the inmates of certain homes and infirmaries. Pensions.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act providing for Adequate Assistance to Certain Aged Citizens.

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 one of chapter one hundred
2 and eighteen A of the General Laws, inserted by
3 section one of chapter four hundred and two of the
4 acts of nineteen hundred and thirty, is hereby fur-
5 ther amended by inserting after the word "care"
6 in the twelfth line the following:—Any city or
7 town home or infirmary having boarders shall be
8 termed a boarding home under this act,—so as to
9 read as follows:—*Section 1.* Adequate assistance
10 to deserving citizens in need of relief and support
11 seventy years of age or over who shall have resided
12 in the commonwealth not less than twenty years
13 immediately preceding arrival at such age, subject

14 to such reasonable exceptions as to continuity of
15 residence as the department of public welfare, in
16 this chapter called the department, may determine
17 by rules hereinafter authorized, shall be granted
18 under the supervision of the department. Such as-
19 sistance shall, wherever practicable, be given to the
20 aged person in his own home or in lodgings or in a
21 boarding home, and it shall be sufficient to provide
22 such suitable and dignified care. Any city or town
23 home or infirmary having boarders shall be termed
24 a boarding home under this act. No person receiv-
25 ing assistance hereunder shall be deemed to be a
26 pauper by reason thereof.

1 SECTION 2. Section three of said chapter one
2 hundred and eighteen A, inserted as aforesaid, is
3 hereby amended by inserting after the word "given"
4 in the seventh line the following:—, which assist-
5 ance shall continue during the life of the assisted
6 except when such person is incarcerated in a cor-
7 rectional institution or an insane asylum,—so as
8 to read as follows:—*Section 3.* In respect to all
9 aged persons in receipt of assistance under this chap-
10 ter, the town rendering the assistance shall, after
11 and subject to approval of the bills by the depart-
12 ment and subject otherwise to the provisions of sec-
13 tion forty-two of chapter one hundred and twenty-
14 one, be reimbursed by the commonwealth for one
15 third of the amount of assistance given, which as-
16 sistance shall continue during the life of the as-
17 sisted except when such person is incarcerated in a
18 correctional institution or an insane asylum, or, if
19 the person so aided has no settlement in the com-

20 monwealth, for the total amount thereof. If the
21 person so aided has a legal settlement in another
22 town, two thirds of the amount of such assistance
23 given, may be recovered in contract against the
24 town liable therefor in accordance with chapter one
25 hundred and seventeen.

