

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1120

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By Mr. Carroll of Revere, petition of Thomas F. Carroll that cities and towns be authorized to borrow money for bettering housing conditions in congested districts and relative to appointment of local housing betterment commissions. Municipal Finance.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act authorizing Cities and Towns to appropriate or borrow Money for the Purpose of Bettering the Housing Conditions in their Congested Residential Districts, and providing for the Appointment of Local Housing Betterment Commissions.

*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. Chapter forty of the General Laws, as  
2 appearing in the Tercentenary edition thereof, is  
3 hereby amended by inserting after section nine A  
4 the following new section:—

5 *Section 9B.* A city or town, for the purpose of  
6 bettering the housing conditions in congested resi-  
7 dential districts thereof, may annually appropriate a  
8 sum not exceeding, in any one year, of  
9 per cent of its valuation.

1 SECTION 2. Section eight of chapter forty-four of  
2 the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended

3 by inserting after subsection (12) the following new  
4 subsection: —

5 (13) For bettering the living conditions in con-  
6 gested residential districts thereof,                      years.

1 SECTION 3. Chapter forty-five of the General  
2 Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by insert-  
3 ing after section eleven, under the caption, Housing  
4 Betterment Commissions, the following section: —

5 *Section 11A.* In a city which by vote of its city  
6 council, or in a town which by vote of a town meeting,  
7 accepts this section, the city council or selectmen  
8 may appoint, for terms of three years each, and until  
9 the qualification of their successors, a commission to  
10 be known as the housing betterment commission, here-  
11 inafter called the commission, and consisting of three  
12 members who shall each receive such salary, not to  
13 exceed                      dollars as may be fixed by the city  
14 council or selectmen. Of the persons first appointed  
15 hereunder, one shall serve for a term of one year, one  
16 for a term of two years, and one for a term of three  
17 years. Upon the expiration of the term of office of  
18 any member his successor shall in like manner be  
19 appointed for the term of three years. For the pur-  
20 pose set forth in subsection (13) of section eight of  
21 chapter forty-four, the commission may receive by  
22 gift or devise, or may purchase or take by eminent  
23 domain under chapter seventy-nine, any lands or  
24 interests therein, may alter or demolish any structures  
25 thereon and may erect thereon suitable buildings in  
26 the form of model tenement houses or otherwise, may  
27 rent or lease at reasonable rates such land or build-  
28 ings, and may thereafter sell or otherwise dispose of  
29 any such land or buildings at prices approved by the  
30 city council or the selectmen, as the case may be.