

HOUSE No. 1122

By Mr. Sawyer of Ware, petition of Walter V. McCarthy (Commissioner of Public Welfare) relative to reimbursement of cities and towns by the Commonwealth for care and treatment of certain needy persons. Public Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to Reimbursement of Cities and Towns by the Commonwealth for the Care and Treatment of Certain Needy Persons.

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 eighteen of chapter one hun-
2 dred and twenty-two of the General Laws, as appear-
3 ing in the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby amended
4 by striking out, in lines eighteen, twenty and twenty-
5 one, the words "ten dollars and fifty cents" and
6 inserting in place thereof the words:—twenty-one
7 dollars,—and by adding at the end thereof the
8 following new sentence:—Expenses incurred by a
9 town for tonsil and adenoid operations shall be re-
10 imbursed by the commonwealth to an amount not
11 exceeding fifteen dollars,—so as to read as follows:—
12 *Section 18.* Reasonable expenses incurred by a town
13 under the preceding section within five days next

14 before notice has been given as therein required and
15 also after the giving of such notice and until said
16 sick person is able to be removed to the state infirm-
17 ary shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth. If the
18 department, after investigation, deems it expedient
19 as an economy in expenditure and in the interest of
20 the patient's health, it may authorize reimbursement
21 for aid rendered after the patient has become able to
22 be so removed, and, in its discretion, until the patient
23 is able to be discharged. If the department considers
24 it expedient to order the removal to the state infirmary
25 of a person whose physical condition is such as to
26 require attendance, reasonable expenses incurred for
27 such attendance as directed by the department shall
28 also be reimbursed by the commonwealth. Bills for
29 such support shall not be allowed unless endorsed
30 with the declaration that, after full investigation, no
31 kindred able to pay the amount charged have been
32 found, and that the amount has actually been paid
33 from the town treasury, nor unless they are approved
34 by the department or by a person designated by it;
35 and not more than twenty-one dollars a week shall
36 be allowed for the support of a person in a town
37 hospital, and no charges of whatever nature in excess
38 of the said twenty-one dollars a week shall be allowed.
39 Reimbursement by the commonwealth under the
40 provisions hereof shall be subject to the provisions of
41 section forty-two of chapter one hundred and twenty-
42 one. Expenses incurred by a town for tonsil and
43 adenoid operations shall be reimbursed by the com-
44 monwealth to an amount not exceeding fifteen dollars.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on the first
2 day of July in the current year.