

HOUSE No. 593

By Mr. Cleary of Boston, petition of David M. Cleary for the recording without charge of discharge or release papers of soldiers, sailors and marines and relative to the furnishing of copies of papers so recorded. Military Affairs and Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Five.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE RECORDING WITHOUT CHARGE OF DISCHARGE OR RELEASE PAPERS OF SOLDIERS, SAILORS OR MARINES AND FOR THE FURNISHING WITHOUT CHARGE OF COPIES OF PAPERS SO RECORDED.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General
2 Laws is hereby amended by striking out section
3 twenty-four, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edi-
4 tion, and inserting in place thereof the following:—
5 *Section 24.* The discharge or release papers of
6 soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the armed
7 forces of the United States in time of war or insur-
8 rection and have been honorably discharged there-
9 from or released from active duty therein, shall be
10 recorded with the clerk of the town of the holder's
11 residence in books kept for that purpose when such
12 veterans so request. The clerk shall prepare and

13 keep an index of the papers so recorded, and copies
14 of such papers, if attested by him, shall be admitted
15 as sufficient evidence thereof whenever they are
16 otherwise competent. No fee for recording such
17 papers or for furnishing attested copies thereof shall
18 be demanded or received by such clerk.

19 The word "soldier", "sailor" or "marine", as
20 used in this section, shall include a man or a woman.