

**Chap. 46.** AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE OBSERVANCE OF TEACHERS' DAY.  
*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

Chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 12W, inserted by chapter 358 of the acts of 1959, the following section:—*Section 12X.* The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting aside the first Sunday in June as Teachers' Day and recommending that said day be observed in appropriate manner by the public in honoring the teachers of the commonwealth.

*Approved February 8, 1960.*

**Chap. 47.** AN ACT FURTHER DEFINING THE DUTIES OF ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

Section 19 of chapter 41 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the second sentence, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following two sentences:— The assistant town clerk shall, in the absence of the clerk, perform his duties and have the powers and be subject to the requirements and penalties applicable to him, unless a temporary clerk is elected or appointed pursuant to section fourteen. Such duties and powers shall include acting as clerk of the board of registrars of voters, in a town where the town clerk performs this function; provided, that equal representation of the two leading political parties on said board, in accordance with section eighteen of chapter fifty-one, is not affected thereby.

*Approved February 8, 1960.*

**Chap. 48.** AN ACT FURTHER DEFINING THE DUTIES OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN OR OTHER OFFICER RELATIVE TO THE FILING OF CERTAIN CERTIFICATES OF BIRTH AND DEATH.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** Section 2A of chapter 46 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter 324 of the acts of 1954, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "births", the second time it appears in line 2, the words:— , or fetal deaths.

**SECTION 2.** The first paragraph of section 3 of said chapter 46 is hereby amended by striking out the third sentence, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:—Except in cases where a child is born dead, said physician or officer shall, within fifteen days after such birth, mail or deliver to the clerk or registrar of the town where such birth occurred, a report stating the facts hereinabove required to be shown on said record and also the said written request, if any; provided, that if said report is not so made within forty-eight hours after such birth, said physician or officer shall, within said forty-eight hours, mail or deliver to said clerk or registrar a notice stating the date and place of the birth, the street number, if any, the ward number, if in a city, and the family name.

**SECTION 3.** Said chapter 46 is hereby further amended by striking

out section 9, as most recently amended by section 2 of chapter 48 of the acts of 1959, and inserting in place thereof the following section:—

*Section 9.* A physician or registered hospital medical officer shall forthwith, after the death of a person whom he has attended during his last illness, at the request of an undertaker or other authorized person or of any member of the family of the deceased, furnish for registration a standard certificate of death, stating to the best of his knowledge and belief the name of the deceased, his supposed age, the disease of which he died, defined as required by section one, where same was contracted, the duration of his last illness, when last seen alive by the physician or officer and the date of his death. Said physician or officer shall print or type on every certificate furnished by him under this section and section nine A the cause, or causes, of death and, directly below his signature, his name. A physician or officer attending at the birth of a child dying immediately thereafter shall forthwith furnish for registration a certificate stating that to the best of his knowledge and belief such child died immediately after birth. Both the birth and death of such child shall be recorded.

SECTION 4. Said chapter 46 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 9 the following two sections:—*Section 9A.* When a child is born dead, after a period of gestation of not less than twenty weeks, and in the fetus there is no attempt at respiration, no action of heart and no movement of voluntary muscle, the physician or officer attending at the birth of such child shall forthwith furnish for registration, at the request of an undertaker or other authorized person or of any member of the family of the deceased, a certificate of fetal death on a form which shall be prepared by the secretary of state as required by section sixteen. Town clerks shall record certificates of fetal death in the town register of deaths in the same manner as a death certificate, but they shall not be required to record such certificates in the town register of births.

*Section 9B.* A physician or officer neglecting or refusing to furnish a certificate as provided in section nine or section nine A, or making a false statement therein, shall forfeit not more than fifty dollars.

SECTION 5. The first sentence of section 11 of said chapter 46, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “nine”, in line 3, the words:—or section nine A.

SECTION 6. Section 12 of said chapter 46, as most recently amended by chapter 439 of the acts of 1945, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word “sex”, in line 23, the words:—and no record of fetal death.

SECTION 7. Said chapter 46 is hereby further amended by striking out section 24, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:—*Section 24.* In any statement of births, deaths and fetal deaths printed by a town the name of an illegitimate child or of its parents or of the parents of a child born dead shall not be printed, but the word “illegitimate” or “fetal death” shall be used in place thereof. A town violating this section shall forfeit to the mother of such child not more than one hundred dollars.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect on October first, nineteen hundred and sixty.

*Approved February 8, 1960.*