

provision shall apply only to taxes due and payable for the fiscal year ending June the thirtieth, nineteen hundred and seventy-six.

Approved November 6, 1975.

Chap. 678. AN ACT TO ASCERTAIN THE WILL OF THE VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF CHELMSFORD RELATIVE TO ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE METCO PROGRAM, SO CALLED.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any special or general law to the contrary, in order to ascertain the will of the voters of the town of Chelmsford, the selectmen of said town shall cause to be placed on the official ballot to be used for the election of officers at the next annual town meeting of said town the following question:

“Shall the town of Chelmsford participate in the METCO program?” The result of such vote shall not be deemed to be binding upon the selectmen and other officers of said town.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved November 6, 1975.

Chap. 679. AN ACT AUTHORIZING CERTAIN MEDICINES AND DRUG SUBSTANCES TO BE MANUFACTURED OR SOLD WITHOUT CERTAIN CONTROLS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 112 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 41 the following section: —

• *Section 41A.* Sections thirty-six A to forty-one, inclusive, of this chapter, and sections twenty-nine to thirty G, inclusive, of chapter one hundred and thirty-eight shall not apply to the manufacture or sale of patent and proprietary medicines or any substance or drug not included or defined in chapter ninety-four C as a controlled substance.

Approved November 6, 1975.

Chap. 680. AN ACT PROVIDING A MINIMUM PENALTY FOR PERSONS WHO COMMIT AN ASSAULT AND BATTERY UPON CERTAIN PUBLIC OFFICERS OR EMPLOYEES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 265 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 13D, as amended by chapter 839 of the acts of 1973, and inserting in place thereof the following section: —

Section 13D. Whoever commits an assault and battery upon a police officer, a fire fighter, a correction officer or an employee