By Mr. McKinnon, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1383) of Allan R. McKinnon, Joseph F. Timilty, Timothy A. Foley, Edward L. Burke and John W. Bullock for legislation to facilitate the use of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority facilities by physically handicapped persons. Transportation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Four.

AN ACT TO FACILITATE THE USE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY FACILITIES BY PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED 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. Paragraph five of section 13A of chapter 22 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter 827 of the acts of 1971, is hereby further amended by inserting after the phrase, "public housing authority" the words, "Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority."

2. Section 2. Section 5 of chapter 161A of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter 1040 of the acts of 1973, is hereby amended by inserting after subsection (1) the following new subsection:

(m) The authority shall conform to the rules and regulations made pursuant to the provisions of section 13A of chapter 22 of the General Laws, by the board to facilitate the use of public buildings by the physically handicapped or to the modification of or substitution for such rules and regulations as said board may prescribe. In addition, any new or renovated vehicles or equipment for mass public transportation, that are purchased or renovated by or for the authority, shall be of the type that are accessible to and equipped for the safe and convenient use of handicapped persons. The term, "physically handicapped person" shall be construed to mean any of the following: a person confined to a wheel chair,
17 a person who, because of the use of braces or crutches or
18 because of the loss of a foot or leg or because of an arthritic,
19 spastic, pulmonary or cardiac condition, walk with difficulty
20 or insecurity, a person who, due to a brain, spinal or peri-
21 pheral nerve injury, suffers from a faulty coordination or
22 palsy, a person who is blind or whose sight is so impaired
23 that functioning in a public area, he or she is insecure or
24 exposed to danger, a person whose hearing is so impaired
25 that he or she is unable to hear warning signals and a person
26 whose mobility, flexibility, coordination and perceptiveness
27 are significantly reduced by aging.