

By Mr. Owens, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 545) of Bill Owens, John E. McDonough, Shirley Owens-Hicks, Alvin E. Thompson, Nelson Merced, Gloria L. Fox, Augusto F. Grace, Paul D. Harold and Frederick E. Berry for legislation to establish the citizens housing fund. Housing and Urban Development.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CITIZENS HOUSING FUND.

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. The Appendix to chapter 23A of the General
2 Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 1-9C the
3 following four sections: —

4 Section 1-9D. Sections 1-9G, inclusive, shall be known and
5 may be cited as the "Citizens Housing Law".

6 Section 1-9E. As used in sections 1-9D to 1-9G, inclusive, the
7 following words and terms shall have the following meanings,
8 unless the context indicates otherwise:

9 "Low income persons or families", persons or families whose
10 net annual income is less than the amount necessary to enable
11 them to obtain and maintain decent, safe and sanitary housing.

12 "Moderate income persons or families", persons or families
13 other than low income persons or families whose net annual
14 income is less than the amount necessary to enable them to obtain
15 and maintain decent, safe and sanitary housing without the
16 expenditure of over twenty-five per cent of such income for
17 housing expenses, including the provisions of heat, electricity, hot
18 water and an allowance for maintenance and repairs.

19 "Housing", decent, safe and sanitary dwellings.

20 "Funds", the Citizens Housing Fund.

21 Section 1-9F. The chairman of the Massachusetts Housing
22 Finance Agency, hereinafter called MHFA, shall have the

23 authority, with the advice, recommendations and guidance of the
24 other members of the MHFA, to make decisions concerning the
25 administration and allocation of the Fund.

26 Fund money not expended in one fiscal year shall carry over
27 to the next fiscal year and shall not revert to the General Fund.

28 Fund money shall complement, not replace, existing funds for
29 housing programs and assistance.

30 Subject to appropriation, five per cent of the annual proceeds
31 from contributions made pursuant to this section shall be
32 deposited to the department of revenue for the cost of collection
33 and accounting of receipts of such contributions.

34 Section 1-9G. Fund money shall be allocated by the chairman
35 of the MHFA among that agency's programs to:

- 36 1. renovate and preserve existing affordable housing units;
- 37 2. construct new affordable housing units;
- 38 3. purchase existing structures for conversion to affordable
39 housing units;
- 40 4. provide home ownership opportunities for low and
41 moderate income persons and families; and
- 42 5. subsidize apartment rental fees for low and moderate income
43 persons and families.

44 The chairman shall take into account market factors, public
45 needs and housing stock changes in allocating Fund money among
46 MHFA programs.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 62 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 62F, as appearing in the 1988
3 Official Edition, the following section: —

4 Section 6G. Every individual who files a separate return and
5 every husband and wife filing a return jointly may voluntarily
6 contribute all or part of any refund to which they are entitled or
7 may voluntarily add an amount onto any amount due to be
8 credited to the Citizens Housing Fund.

9 Contributions made to the Citizens Housing Fund during the
10 taxable year shall entitle the donor to a credit against any tax
11 imposed. The amount of the credit shall equal fifty-five per cent
12 of the contributions, but not to exceed the following for any
13 taxable year:

14 (1) Fifty dollars for married couples filing joint returns.

15 (2) Twenty-five dollars for all other individuals.

16 (3) Five hundred dollars for corporations, estates and trusts.

17 For purposes of this section, a taxpayer shall be deemed to have
18 made a contribution on the last day of the preceding tax year if
19 such contribution is made on account of such taxable year and
20 is not made later than the date the tax is required to be paid.

21 The provisions of this section shall apply only to residents
22 required to file a return under this chapter.

23 The commissioner shall annually report the total amount
24 designated under this section to the state treasurer who shall credit
25 such amount to the Citizens Housing Fund.

1 SECTION 3. All other general or special laws, or parts thereof,
2 inconsistent herewith are hereby declared to be inapplicable to the
3 provisions of this act.

As the year advances, the weather becomes more favorable for planting. It is now time to begin sowing the seeds of various crops, such as wheat, corn, and other grains. The soil should be prepared by plowing and harrowing, and then the seeds should be sown in rows, spaced at regular intervals. Water should be given to the crops as needed, and they should be weeded to prevent the growth of weeds. The farmer should also keep a close watch on the weather and be prepared to take action if there is a drought or a flood. The year is now in full swing, and the farmer is busy with his work.

The weather is now very hot, and the crops are growing rapidly. The farmer should be careful not to overwater the crops, as they may become waterlogged. It is also important to watch for signs of pests and diseases, and to take action if necessary. The farmer should also be prepared to harvest the crops as they mature. The year is now in full swing, and the farmer is busy with his work.

The year is now drawing to a close, and the farmer is busy with his work. The crops are being harvested, and the farmer is preparing for the next year. The year has been a busy one, and the farmer has worked hard to make the most of it.