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treasurer of said authority shall forthwith take such steps as may be necessary to ensure prompt payment of such amount. All payments received from said authority shall be credited to the pension fund of said system. In default of any such payment or transfer by said authority, said board of said system may maintain an action of contract to recover such payment or transfer.

SECTION 4. After said William J. P. Cleary has received full credit for his prior service with said authority as provided by this act, he shall not be entitled to receive a pension from said authority nor shall he be allowed to repay the amount of his contributions plus interest into the pension fund of said authority for the purpose of reinstating his eligibility for such pension.

Approved December 13, 1983.

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Chap. 573. AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE CONTROL AND REMOVAL OF OIL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to immediately clarify the law relative to the prevention of and response to release of oil and hazardous materials, therefore, it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of chapter 21E of the General Laws, as appearing in section 5 of chapter 7 of the acts of 1983, is hereby amended by striking out the definition of "Owner" or "Operator", and inserting in place thereof the following definition:-

"Owner" or "Operator", (1) in the case of a vessel, any person owning, operating or chartering by demise such vessel, (2) in the case of a site, any person owning or operating such site, and (3) in the case of an abandoned site, any person who owned, operated, or otherwise controlled activities at such site immediately prior to such abandonment. The term shall not include a person, who, without participating in the management of a vessel or site holds indicia of ownership primarily to protect his security interest in said vessel or site.

SECTION 2. Said section 2 of said chapter 21E, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting after the definition

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of "Site" the following definition:-

"Statement of claim" or "statement", an instrument signed by the commissioner, describing a particular site or sites and naming the person or persons then deemed by the commissioner to be liable under this chapter with respect to each such site and their residential addresses, to the extent known to the commissioner, and declaring a lien upon the property of such person or persons for the payment of amounts due or to become due from such person or persons to the commonwealth under this chapter; provided, however, that neither failure to state any such address nor the designation of an incorrect address shall invalidate such statement; and provided, further, that successive statements, naming other persons so deemed to be liable, may be issued.

SECTION 3. Said chapter 21E is hereby further amended by striking out section 13, as so appearing, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

Section 13. Any liability to the commonwealth under this chapter shall constitute a debt to the commonwealth. Any such debt, together with interest thereon at the rate of twelve per cent per annum from the date such debt becomes due, shall constitute a lien on all property owned by persons liable under this chapter when a statement of claim naming such persons is recorded or filed. If the site described in such statement comprises real property, the statement shall be recorded in each registry of deeds in the commonwealth; and shall also be registered in each registry district in which any person named in such statement of claim holds record title to registered land as shown on the current index of registered land owners in such district. The land court certificate number of each such owner shall be noted on the statement when presented for recording and each assistant recorder, upon receipt of such statement, shall note such statement on the owner's certificate of title. In the case of personal property, whether tangible or intangible, the statement shall be filed in accordance with the provisions of section 9-401 of chapter one hundred and six. Any lien recorded, registered or filed pursuant to this section shall have priority over any encumbrance theretofore recorded, registered or filed with respect to any site, other than real property the greater part of which is devoted to single or multi-family housing, described in such statement of claim, but as to all other real property shall be subject to encumbrances or other interests recorded, registered or filed prior to the record, registration or filing of such statement, and as to all other personal property shall be subject to the priority rules of said chapter one hundred and six. Such lien, other than a lien on real property the greater part of which is devoted to single or multi-family hous-

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ing, shall continue in force with respect to any particular real or personal property until a release of the lien signed by the commissioner is recorded, registered or filed in the place where the statement of claim as to such property affected by the lien was recorded, registered or filed. In addition to discretionary releases of liens, the commissioner shall forthwith issue such a release in any case where the debt for which such lien attached, together with interest and costs thereon, has been paid or legally abated. This section shall not apply to any property, real or personal, tangible or intangible, any money, fees, charges, revenues or otherwise, owned, payable to or by, held in trust by or for, or otherwise owned, operated or managed by the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company established pursuant to chapter seven hundred and seventy-five of the acts of nineteen hundred and seventy-five, Massachusetts municipal light departments organized under chapter one hundred and sixty-four or any other special law, or with respect to any property real or personal whatsoever of municipal light departments administered pursuant to chapters forty-four and one hundred and sixty-four A. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the aforesaid Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company and Municipal Light Departments shall use their authority as provided by applicable statutes to assess, contain, or remove any such oil or hazardous material release for which they are responsible under chapter twenty-one E.

SECTION 4. Sections one, two and three of this act shall take effect as of March twenty-fourth, nineteen hundred and eighty-three.

Approved December 15, 1983.

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Chap. 574. AN ACT PROVIDING FOR INCREASED HOUSING UNITS IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. To provide for a program of studies, preparation of plans, construction, reconstruction, renovation, alteration and improvement, including but not limited to development of additional state-assisted housing units, as well as modernization of existing state-assisted housing units, and for the purchase of certain property, including but not limited to site acquisition and development, and for various programs increasing the housing stock available within the commonwealth, the sums set forth in sections two to six, inclusive of this act, for the several pur-