

HOUSE No. 979

Accompanying the petition of Charles C. Donoghue for legislation relative to the removal of veteran soldiers and sailors in the service of counties. Public Service. January 20.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-One.

AN ACT

Relative to the Removal of Veterans in the Public Service of Counties.

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 twenty-six of chapter thirty-one of the General
2 Laws is hereby amended by inserting the word:—county,—
3 after the word “any”, in the second line; and by in-
4 serting the words:—or county,—after the word,
5 “state”, in the ninth line, so as to read as follows:—
6 *Section 26.* No veteran holding office or employment in
7 the public service of the commonwealth or any county,
8 city or town therein shall be removed or suspended, or,
9 without his consent, transferred from such office or em-
10 ployment, nor shall his office or position be abolished,
11 nor shall he be lowered in rank or compensation, except
12 after a full hearing of which he shall have at least sev-

13 enty-two hours' written notice, with a statement of the
14 reasons for the contemplated removal, suspension, trans-
15 fer, lowering in rank or compensation, or abolition. The
16 hearing in case of a state or county employee shall be
17 before the board of conciliation and arbitration, in case
18 of a town employee before the selectmen, in case of a
19 city employee before the board of aldermen. At any
20 such hearing each veteran concerned may be present and
21 be represented by counsel. Such removal, suspension or
22 transfer, lowering in rank or compensation, or abolition
23 of an office, shall be made only upon a written order
24 stating fully and specifically the causes therefor, and
25 signed by the board of conciliation and arbitration, or
26 by the selectmen, or by the aldermen, as the case may
27 be, after a hearing as aforesaid. An appeal from such
28 order may be taken under section forty-five. This sec-
29 tion shall not apply to the state, Boston or metropolitan
30 park police.

