

ACTS, 1985. – Chaps. 597, 598.

Every bank doing business in the commonwealth, which for the purposes of this section shall include any bank as defined in section one and any national bank, national banking association, federal savings bank, federal savings and loan association and federal credit union, shall honor and cash a check presented by a pensioner or retiree, whether or not such person has an account in such bank, if the following conditions are met: (a) the said pensioner or retiree is a resident of the commonwealth; (b) the said pensioner or retiree provides adequate information for identification purposes and is registered with such bank; (c) any such check has been issued to the pensioner or retiree presenting the same as a social security, supplemental security income, supplemental security income for aged, blind, and disabled or retirement benefit by the federal government or any agency thereof, or by the commonwealth or any agency or political subdivision thereof; and (d) any such check is for an amount not exceeding two thousand and five hundred dollars.

Approved December 19, 1985.

Chapter 597. AN ACT FURTHER PROTECTING LINEMEN IN THE PROCESS OF INSTALLING OR REPAIRING LIVE WIRES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section 129C of chapter 149 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1984 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the last paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:–

For the purpose of this section, a structure shall be deemed to include any type of aerial lift device, including a so-called bucket truck. This section shall not apply to work done by any person who is commonly called a troubleman, while making emergency repairs, locating electrical faults, clearing defective apparatus, or answering service calls.

Approved December 19, 1985.

Chapter 598. AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE PAYMENT OF CERTAIN TAXES IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 59 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 57 the following section:–

Section 57A. In any city or town which accepts the provisions of this section notwithstanding the provisions of section fifty-seven, if a bill for real estate or personal property taxes, in an amount not in excess of twenty-five dollars, remains unpaid after November first of the fiscal year in which it is payable, or after the thirtieth day after the date on which the bill for such tax was mailed, if mailed after October first, interest at the rate of fourteen per cent per annum computed from

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October first, or from the date the bill for such tax was mailed, if mailed after October first, shall be paid on such unpaid tax.

SECTION 2. Section one hundred and six of chapter sixty of the General Laws is hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. The provisions of section one of this act shall be effective for fiscal years commencing on or after the date of acceptance by a city or town.

Approved December 19, 1985.

Chapter 599. AN ACT RELATIVE TO CERTAIN APPLICATIONS FOR ABSENT VOTING BALLOTS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 86 of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1984 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:— Any voter who during the hours that polling places are open on the day of a special state election or the biennial state election or of any special or regular state primary or of a presidential primary is absent from the city or town where he is a voter by reason of being a specially qualified voter as defined in section one hundred and three B of chapter fifty-four, or his employment in another community, attendance at any institution of higher education or for any other reason or who will be unable to by reason of physical disability to cast his vote in person at the polling place or who for reasons of religious belief will be unable to cast his vote in person on the day of an election and whose application for an official absent voting ballot has been filed with the city or town clerk as provided in section eighty-nine or eighty-nine A, and certified under section ninety-one, may vote in accordance with sections eighty-seven to one hundred and three, inclusive.

SECTION 2. Said chapter 54 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 89 the following section:—

Section 89A. Application for an official absent voting ballot may be made in writing by a parent of a registered voter absent from the city or town, as set forth in section eighty-six by reason of being a specially qualified voter as defined in section one hundred and three B of chapter fifty-four, or by reason of his attendance at any institution of higher learning to the clerk of the city or town where said voter is registered. The applicant shall state his name, address and relationship to the person on whose behalf application is made as well as the name, current mailing address and legal domicile within the commonwealth of the person to receive the ballot. The applicant shall swear in writing to the truth of all statements made therein. Applications shall be processed in accordance with the provisions of section eighty-nine.