

HOUSE No. 1148

By Mr. Melley of Chelsea, petition of William H. Melley that citizens who have reached the age of sixty-five years be made eligible to receive old age assistance. Pensions.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Five.

An Act providing for Adequate Assistance to Certain
Persons Sixty-five Years of Age or Over.

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 one of chapter one hundred and eighteen
2 A of the General Laws, as appearing in the Ter-
3 centenary edition thereof, is hereby amended by
4 striking out, in the second line, the word "seventy"
5 and inserting in place thereof the word: — sixty-five,
6 — so as to read as follows: — *Section 1.* Adequate
7 assistance to deserving citizens in need of relief and
8 support sixty-five years of age or over who shall
9 have resided in the commonwealth not less than
10 twenty years immediately preceding arrival at such
11 age, subject to such reasonable exceptions as to
12 continuity of residence as the department of public
13 welfare, in this chapter called the department, may
14 determine by rules hereinafter authorized, shall be

15 granted under the supervision of the department.
16 Such assistance shall, wherever practicable, be given
17 to the aged person in his own home or in lodgings
18 or in a boarding home, and it shall be sufficient to
19 provide such suitable and dignified care. No per-
20 son receiving assistance hereunder shall be deemed
21 to be a pauper by reason thereof.