

HOUSE No. 2162

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, June 20, 1938.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the Bill relating to the administration and supervision of public relief (House, No. 2043), report that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor the accompanying bill (House, No. 2162).

For the committee,

JOSEPH N. O'KANE.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE DISTRICTS IN CERTAIN TOWNS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter one hundred and seventeen of the General
2 Laws is hereby amended by adding after section forty-
3 three, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, the
4 following three new sections:—

5 *Section 44.* Two or more towns may, upon recom-
6 mendation of the commissioner of public welfare, or
7 by vote of each such town and subject to the approval
8 of said commissioner, form a district for the purpose
9 of employing therein suitable persons to assist the
10 board of public welfare, or the selectmen acting as
11 such board, of each constituent town in carrying out
12 the provisions of this chapter and chapters one hun-
13 dred and eighteen, one hundred and eighteen A and
14 one hundred and twenty-two. Such employees shall
15 annually be appointed by a district welfare committee,
16 composed of one member elected by and from the
17 board of public welfare, or the selectmen acting as such
18 board, of each constituent town. Said committee
19 shall determine the relative amount of service to be

20 performed by said employees in each town, fix their
21 salaries, apportion the amount thereof and of their
22 necessary expenses to be paid by each town and certify
23 the same to each town treasurer. The treasurer of
24 one of the towns designated by the committee shall be
25 treasurer of the district and shall give to the district
26 a bond with a surety company authorized to transact
27 business in the commonwealth as surety for the faith-
28 ful performance of his duties as treasurer of the district,
29 in such sum and upon such conditions as the com-
30 mittee may require. Upon order of the board of
31 public welfare, or of the selectmen acting as such
32 board, of each such town, the town treasurer thereof
33 shall, from time to time, subject to the provisions of
34 section fifty-two of chapter forty-one, pay to the dis-
35 trict treasurer such sums not exceeding the amount
36 certified by the committee as the town's share of the
37 expenses of the district. The district treasurer shall
38 disburse the money so received, upon warrants ap-
39 proved by a majority of said committee and signed by
40 the chairman and secretary thereof.

41 *Section 45.* Each public welfare district established
42 under the preceding section shall certify to the com-
43 missioner of public welfare the amounts paid for the
44 necessary salaries and expenses of the persons em-
45 ployed by it. One third of the amounts allowed by
46 said commissioner for such salaries and expenses shall
47 be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the district on
48 or before the tenth day of the quarter after such
49 certification.

50 *Section 46.* The department of public welfare shall
51 supervise the work done in such public welfare dis-
52 tricts, and for said purpose may make such rules
53 relative thereto as it deems necessary, including rules

54 for the efficient use of the persons employed by said
55 districts in the several categories of public welfare.
56 Said department shall have access to any records and
57 other data kept by such district welfare committees
58 or their employees.