

AN ACT RELATIVE TO ASSESSMENTS UPON CITIES AND TOWNS SERVED BY THE NEW BEDFORD, WOODS HOLE, MARTHA'S VINEYARD AND NANTUCKET STEAMSHIP AUTHORITY IN THE EVENT OF A DEFICIT IN THE COST OF SERVICE OF SAID AUTHORITY, AND PROVIDING FOR CONTINUOUS SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. *Chap. 747*

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. Chapter 544 of the acts of 1948 is hereby amended by inserting after section 5 the following section: —  
*Section 5A.* The Authority shall provide adequate transportation of persons and necessities of life for the islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard throughout the year, and shall provide regularly scheduled ferry runs daily throughout the year of the type that will accommodate standard size trucks and semi tractor-trailer vehicles to and from the ports of New Bedford, Woods Hole, Vineyard Haven, and Nantucket, and adequate ferry slips or transfer bridges shall be constructed and maintained at said ports to facilitate and accommodate said vehicular traffic.

SECTION 2. Section 9 of said chapter 544 is hereby amended by striking out the next to the last paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: —

In case the commonwealth shall be called upon to pay the Authority any amount under this section, such amount with interest or other charges incurred in borrowing the money for the purpose, except such amounts as may be appropriated by the general court therefor, shall be assessed on the city of New Bedford and the towns of Falmouth and Nantucket and the county of Dukes county, in the following proportions, viz.: forty per cent on the city of New Bedford; ten per cent on the town of Falmouth; twenty per cent on the town of Nantucket; and thirty per cent on the county of Dukes county. The county commissioners of the county of Dukes county shall allocate such assessment upon said county to be paid severally by the towns in said county, excepting the town of Gosnold, in the same proportions as in the assessment of the county tax.

*Approved October 11, 1956.*