

HOUSE No. 1124

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 26, 1925.

The committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 646) of James M. Curley, mayor of Boston, for legislation to prevent the pauperization of certain veterans now or formerly in the service of the United States Government or their dependents by the receipt of public aid in hospitals or under public institutions, report the accompanying bill.

For the committee,

LYMAN A. HODGDON.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

An Act to prevent the Pauperization of Certain Veterans or Their Dependents by the Receipt of Aid in Hospitals or Other Institutions.

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 four of chapter one hundred and sixteen of
2 the General Laws is hereby amended by adding at the
3 end thereof the following:— If a soldier or a dependent
4 of a soldier eligible to receive military aid or soldiers'
5 relief under chapter one hundred and fifteen, receives
6 aid or treatment in any hospital or other institution,
7 such aid or treatment shall not have the effect of pre-
8 venting or defeating the acquisition of a legal settle-
9 ment,— so as to read as follows:— *Section 4.* No
10 person who actually supports himself and his family
11 shall be deemed to be a pauper by reason of the com-
12 mitment of his wife, child or other relative to a state
13 hospital or institution of charity, reform or correction
14 by order of a court or magistrate, and of his inability
15 to maintain such person therein; or who, to the best
16 of his ability, has attempted to provide for himself and
17 his dependents and has not been a mendicant, and who,
18 through no crime or misdemeanor of his own, has come
19 into grievous need and receives aid or assistance given
20 temporarily, or partial support continuously, to him or
21 his family; provided, that nothing herein shall be con-

22 strued to affect, directly or indirectly, settlement, poor,
23 or pauper laws, or laws under which any charity, aid or
24 assistance is furnished by public authority. If a soldier
25 or a dependent of a soldier eligible to receive military
26 aid or soldiers' relief under chapter one hundred and
27 fifteen, receives aid or treatment in any hospital or other
28 institution, such aid or treatment shall not have the
29 effect of preventing or defeating the acquisition of a legal
30 settlement.

