

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1546

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By Mr. Whitney of Concord, petition of Otis M. Whitney for legislation relative to protecting cities and towns which furnish support and relief to persons who are the owners of real estate. Public Welfare.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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AN ACT PROTECTING CITIES AND TOWNS THAT FURNISH  
SUPPORT AND RELIEF TO PERSONS WHO ARE OWNERS  
OF REAL ESTATE.

*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 1. Chapter one hundred and seventeen  
2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by insert-  
3 ing after section thirty, as appearing in the Ter-  
4 centenary Edition, the following new sections:—  
5 *Section 30A.* The ownership of land or of an  
6 equity in land shall not disqualify a person from re-  
7 ceiving relief and support under this chapter, but  
8 the board of public welfare of a city or town relieving  
9 or supporting such person may cause to be recorded  
10 in the registry of deeds or land registration office in  
11 the district in which the land lies a notice that the city  
12 or town is rendering such relief and support. Such  
13 notice shall contain the name of owner of record of  
14 such land, a description thereof sufficiently accurate

15 for identification and a statement that such owner  
16 has received or is receiving such relief and support  
17 and shall be signed by a member of the board of  
18 public welfare or an agent designated by such board.  
19 The register of deeds shall receive and record or, in  
20 case of registered land file and register such notice.

21 *Section 30B.* A notice recorded or filed and regis-  
22 tered in accordance with the provisions of section  
23 thirty A shall constitute a lien on the premises de-  
24 scribed therein and shall have the effect of a mort-  
25 gage given by the record owner, if he be the person  
26 receiving the relief and support, and his spouse, if  
27 any, executed and recorded on the date of record  
28 of said notice to secure to the city or town the amount  
29 of the relief and support advanced or to be advanced  
30 to such owner. Such lien may be discharged by the  
31 city or town treasurer upon repayment of the amount  
32 advanced or such lesser sum as may be agreed upon  
33 by the board of public welfare thereof and partial  
34 releases may from time to time be executed and  
35 delivered by such treasurer with the approval of  
36 said board with or without repayment.

37 *Section 30C.* A lien created by filing a notice as  
38 provided in section thirty A shall exist subject to  
39 the condition that if such owner or his heirs, ad-  
40 ministrators or assigns pays to the city or town the  
41 amount of relief and support received by him or his  
42 family or such sum less than said amount as the  
43 board of public welfare shall agree upon it shall be  
44 void. But if the owner shall die before payment of  
45 such amount or sum or if before such payment there  
46 is an alienation of the land described in said notice  
47 the city treasurer acting for the city or town may  
48 sell the land, or such portion thereof as may remain

49 subject to the lien in case of any partial release thereof,  
50 on or near the premises then subject to the lien or,  
51 if more than one parcel is then subject thereto on  
52 or near one of said parcels, first publishing a notice  
53 thereof once each week for three successive weeks  
54 the first publication to be twenty-one days at least  
55 before the sale takes place, in a newspaper published  
56 in the city or town where the land lies and may con-  
57 vey the same by proper deed or deeds to the pur-  
58 chaser absolutely and in fee simple and such sale  
59 shall forever bar the person receiving the relief and  
60 assistance or those claiming under him from all  
61 right and interest in the land whether at law or in  
62 equity. Sections twenty-five to twenty-eight, in-  
63 clusive, of chapter one hundred and eighty-three,  
64 section six of chapter two hundred and fifteen and  
65 section fifteen of chapter two hundred and forty-  
66 four applying to mortgages shall apply equally to  
67 such liens.

1 SECTION 2. Section thirty-one of said chapter  
2 one hundred and seventeen, as so appearing, is hereby  
3 amended by striking out the words "and prosecu-  
4 tions" in line one and inserting in place thereof the  
5 words: — , prosecutions and proceedings, — so as to  
6 read as follows: — *Section 31.* In actions, prosecu-  
7 tions and proceedings founded on the preceding  
8 sections, the board of public welfare of any town or  
9 any person appointed by a writing under the hands  
10 of its members shall appear and prosecute or defend  
11 the same in behalf of such town.

The first part of the history is a general account of the state of the world in the year 1700. It is divided into three parts: the first part is a general account of the world in the year 1700; the second part is a general account of the world in the year 1700; and the third part is a general account of the world in the year 1700.

The second part of the history is a general account of the state of the world in the year 1700. It is divided into three parts: the first part is a general account of the world in the year 1700; the second part is a general account of the world in the year 1700; and the third part is a general account of the world in the year 1700.

The third part of the history is a general account of the state of the world in the year 1700. It is divided into three parts: the first part is a general account of the world in the year 1700; the second part is a general account of the world in the year 1700; and the third part is a general account of the world in the year 1700.