

veteran or dependent of a veteran settled in such city or town and eligible for veterans' benefits under said chapter one hundred and fifteen. *Approved July 22, 1955.*

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE DRAWING OF WATER FROM RICHMOND POND IN THE TOWN OF RICHMOND AND THE CITY OF PITTSFIELD.

Chap. 586

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. No person shall lower or cause to be lowered the waters of Richmond pond, a great pond situated in the town of Richmond and the city of Pittsfield, below the present spillway level of the existing dam at the outlet of said pond, without having notified the division of waterways of the state department of public works of his intention so to do, and having received prior written approval of said department to lower the waters of said pond. Any person sustaining damages to his rights or property by reason of the provisions of this act shall be entitled to recover the same under chapter seventy-nine of the General Laws.

Whoever violates any provision of this act shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved July 22, 1955.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE EXCISE TAX ON CERTAIN REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS.

Chap. 587

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to correct forthwith an inconsistency, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Emergency
preamble.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 60A of the General Laws, as most recently amended by section 1 of chapter 640 of the acts of 1954, is hereby further amended by striking out the sixth paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: —

G. L. (Ter.
Ed.), 60A, § 1,
etc., amended.

If a motor vehicle or trailer is registered after January thirty-first in any year, the excise under this section shall be that proportion of the excise for the full year which the number of months in said year following the month preceding that in which the motor vehicle or trailer is registered bears to twelve; but no excise shall be assessed upon the same motor vehicle or trailer more than once in any year unless its ownership is transferred by sale or otherwise or it is registered after a surrender of registration upon removal of its owner to another state and registration in such other state. If during any year ownership of a motor vehicle or trailer subject to an excise under this section is transferred by sale

Excise tax
on motor
vehicles and
trailers.

or otherwise, or if during any year the owner of a motor vehicle or trailer subject to such an excise removes to another state and registers such motor vehicle or trailer in such other state and surrenders its registration in this state, the excise under this section shall be reduced upon application by an abatement equal to that proportion of an excise under this section on such motor vehicle or trailer for the full year which the number of months in said year remaining after the month in which such transfer by sale or otherwise or such surrender of registration occurs bears to twelve; provided, however, that if in the month in which such transfer by sale or otherwise occurs, the person making such transfer registers another motor vehicle or trailer under chapter ninety and thereby becomes subject to an excise under this section on such other motor vehicle or trailer for such month, the excise under this section on the motor vehicle or trailer transferred shall be further reduced upon application as aforesaid by an abatement equal to one twelfth of a full year's excise under this section on the motor vehicle or trailer transferred. If before an excise imposed by this section is assessed, notice of transfer by sale or otherwise or of surrender of registration as aforesaid is received by the official or officials authorized to make the assessment, the excise shall be assessed in the amount to which it would be reduced by abatement as aforesaid. The excise imposed by this section shall in no event be less than two dollars; and no abatement under this section shall reduce any such excise to less than two dollars.

SECTION 2. Section one A of said chapter sixty A, as most recently amended by chapter two hundred and eighty-five of the acts of nineteen hundred and fifty-two, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This act shall apply to all excises imposed by chapter sixty A of the General Laws for the privilege of registering a motor vehicle or trailer under chapter ninety of the General Laws in the year nineteen hundred and fifty-five and thereafter.

Approved July 22, 1955.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 60A, § 1A, etc., repealed.

Chap. 588 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE BY THE COMMONWEALTH TO THE TOWN OF AGAWAM OF A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN SAID TOWN.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The commissioner of natural resources, in the name and on behalf of the commonwealth, is hereby authorized, subject to the approval of the governor and council, to convey for a nominal consideration to the town of Agawam, by a deed approved as to form by the attorney general, all the right, title and interest of the commonwealth in and to a certain parcel of land situated in said town and bounded and described as follows: —

Beginning at a stone bound in a road at the northwest corner of the land to be described; thence running north-