

Chap. 99 AN ACT REGULATING THE TAKING OF TROUT IN COASTAL WATERS.

Emergency
preamble.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose which is for the immediate protection and conservation of trout resources in our coastal waters, therefore this act is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

G. L. (Ter.
Ed.), 131,
new § 45A,
added.
Taking of
trout in
coastal waters,
regulated.

Chapter 131 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 45 the following section: — *Section 45A.* Brook, brown and rainbow trout may be taken in coastal waters of the commonwealth by angling only, subject to the rules and regulations promulgated under section forty-five for taking such trout in rivers and streams.

Approved February 10, 1954.

Chap. 100 AN ACT INCREASING THE AMOUNT THAT MAY BE EXPENDED FOR THE ERECTION AND EQUIPMENT OF AN ADDITION TO THE COUNTY COURT HOUSE IN THE COUNTY OF DUKES COUNTY, AND CERTAIN INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 88 of the acts of 1953 is hereby amended by striking out section 1 and inserting in place thereof the following section: — *Section 1.* The county commissioners of the county of Dukes county are hereby authorized to raise and expend a sum not exceeding two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars for the erection on land now owned by said county of an addition to said county court building, including plans and specifications, architect's fees and expenses, repairs and alterations, located in said county and the equipping and furnishing thereof.

SECTION 2. Said chapter 88 is hereby further amended by striking out section 3 and inserting in place thereof the following section: — *Section 3.* To provide funds for the erection and original equipping and furnishing of the addition mentioned in section one of this act including plans and specifications, architect's fees and expenses, repairs and alterations, the treasurer of the county of Dukes county with the approval of said county commissioners may borrow from time to time upon the credit of the county such sums not exceeding in the aggregate two hundred and fifteen thousand dollars as may be necessary and may issue bonds or notes therefor which shall bear on their face the words, County of Dukes County Court House Addition, Act of 1953. Each authorized issue shall constitute a separate loan. Such bonds or notes shall be payable in such annual installments, beginning not more than one year from the date thereof, as will extinguish each loan in not more than thirty years from their dates, and so that the amount of such annual payment in any year shall not be less than the

amount of the principal of the loan payable in any subsequent year. Such bonds or notes shall be signed by the treasurer of the county and countersigned by a majority of said county commissioners. The county may sell said securities at public or private sale upon such terms and conditions as said county commissioners may deem proper but not for less than their par value. *Approved February 10, 1954.*

AN ACT FURTHER EXTENDING THE PRIVILEGE OF ABSENT VOTING. Chap.101

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 54 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 86, as most recently amended by section 1 of chapter 153 of the acts of 1951, and inserting in place thereof the following section:— *Section 86.* Any voter who during the hours that the polling places are open on the day of the biennial state election is absent from the city or town where he is a voter by reason of his employment in another community or for any other reason or who will be unable by reason of physical disability to cast his vote in person at the polling place, and whose application for an official absent voting ballot has been filed with the city or town clerk as provided in section eighty-nine, or with the state secretary, and certified under section ninety-one, may vote in accordance with sections eighty-seven to one hundred and three, inclusive; provided, that a voter who is in a penal institution under sentence shall not be entitled or permitted to avail himself of the provisions of this and the seventeen following sections; and provided, further, that a voter who will be unable by reason of physical disability to cast his vote in person at the polling place shall file with the city or town clerk with his application for an official absent voting ballot a certificate executed by a registered physician, attending registered nurse, superintendent of a hospital or like institution or a practitioner of the Christian Science Church, stating that the voter will be unable by reason of physical disability to cast his vote in person at the polling place on the day of election.

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 54, § 86, etc., amended.

Privilege of absent voting, further extended.

Approved February 10, 1954.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE COUNTING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS IN CITIES AND TOWNS WHERE VOTING MACHINES ARE USED. Chap.102

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 54 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 94, as amended by section 1 of chapter 39 of the acts of 1952, and inserting in place thereof the following section:— *Section 94.* Upon receipt of an envelope purporting to contain an official absent voting ballot, the clerk of the city or town shall attach thereto the applica-

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 54, § 94, etc., amended.

Counting of absentee ballots in certain cities