

By Mrs. Murray of Cohasset, petition of Mary Jeanette Murray for legislation to establish a displaced business assistance program. Commerce and Labor.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Seven.

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A DISPLACED BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

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 23A of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 22, the following new sec-
3 tion: —

4 *Section 22A.* Displaced Business Assistance Program. There
5 shall be established within the Small Business Assistance Division
6 a program for loans for displaced businesses. For the purpose of
7 this act a Small Business Assistance Loan Fund shall be established
8 within the division subject to appropriation.

1 SECTION 2. The purpose of these loans is to assist any small
2 business concern in continuing in business at its existing location,
3 in reestablishing its business, in purchasing a business or in estab-
4 lishing a new business, if the Small Business Assistance determines
5 that such concern has suffered substantial economic injury as the
6 result of its displacement by, or location in, adjacent to, or near, a
7 program or project constructed by or with funds provided in whole
8 or in part by the Commonwealth. Such assistance may also be
9 granted if such injury is caused by a program or project undertaken
10 by a county or local government or public service entity which has
11 the authority to exercise the right of eminent domain on such
12 program or project.

1 SECTION 3. These loans may be used to provide: (1) working
2 capital necessary to carry the concern until resumption of normal

3 operations; (2) replacement costs to owners of realty less net
4 amounts received for indemnification of the realty from which the
5 owners have been displaced; (3) funds for nonowners of the prem-
6 ises from which displaced to purchase or construct premises if no
7 suitable rental property is available; (4) purchase of machinery and
8 equipment necessary to carry on business at the new location less
9 any funds received from disposal of equipment owned at location
10 from which displaced; (5) increases in the cost of fixed charges such
11 as rents, insurance, and utility bills for a reasonable period of time;
12 (6) moving expenses not compensated for from some other source
13 where the distance moved is less than 100 miles; (7) purchase of
14 equipment to upgrade the business in a new location where such
15 upgrading is necessary.

1 SECTION 4. Where realty is needed, no loan shall provide
2 funds which would increase the square footage of; (1) land space to
3 more than one-half greater than that owned or occupied prior to
4 displacement: Provided, however, that additional space to meet
5 the minimum requirement of a local building code such as for
6 parking space may be approved, or where the Small Business
7 Assistance Division finds that the type of building being con-
8 structed necessitates additional land.