

nated as the congressional medal of honor from the president of the United States or the secretary of war, or from a person designated by the president or the said secretary to act as the personal representative of the president or said secretary for the presentation of such decoration, and is recorded in the files of the war department or the navy department of the United States as having received such decoration, or (3) any person who has served in time of war or insurrection in any corps or unit of the United States established for the purpose of enabling women to serve with, or as auxiliary to, the armed forces of the United States, and whose last discharge or release from active duty in such corps or unit was an honorable one, regardless of any prior discharge or release therefrom; provided, that the person claiming to be a veteran under this section was a citizen of the commonwealth at the time of his induction into such service or has resided in the commonwealth for five consecutive years next prior to the date of filing application with the director under this chapter; and provided, further, that any such person who at the time of entering said service had declared his intention to become a subject or citizen of the United States and withdrew such intention under the provisions of the act of congress approved July ninth, nineteen hundred and eighteen, and any person designated as a conscientious objector upon his discharge, shall not be deemed a "veteran" within the meaning of this chapter; and provided, further, that no member of the United States coast guard auxiliary and no temporary member of the United States coast guard reserve shall be deemed a "veteran" within the meaning of this chapter.

*Approved April 17, 1946.*

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF MERRIMAC TO BORROW *Chap.217*  
MONEY FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. For the purpose of acquiring land for, and the constructing of, a new consolidated school building, including the original equipment and furnishing of such new building, the town of Merrimac may borrow from time to time, within a period of five years from the passage of this act, such sums as may be necessary, not exceeding, in the aggregate, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and may issue bonds or notes therefor, which shall bear on their face the words, Merrimac School Loan, Act of 1946. Each authorized issue shall constitute a separate loan, and such loans shall be paid in not more than twenty years from their dates, but no issue shall be authorized under the provisions of this act unless a sum equal to twenty-five cents on each one thousand dollars of the assessed valuation of the town for the year preceding the vote has been appropriated from available funds or voted to be raised by taxation for said purpose in the year in which the loan is authorized. Indebtedness

incurred under this act shall be in excess of the statutory limit, but shall, except as provided herein, be subject to chapter forty-four of the General Laws.

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

*Approved April 17, 1946.*

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*Chap.218* AN ACT INCREASING THE AMOUNTS OF CERTAIN ANNUITIES PAYABLE BY THE CITY OF BOSTON UNDER SPECIAL LAW TO THE WIDOWS OF FORMER POLICEMEN AND FIREMEN.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. Annuities payable to the widows of former policemen and firemen of the city of Boston under the provisions of any special law shall, on and after the effective date of this act, be in the sum of one thousand dollars in all cases where a less amount is specified in such special law.

SECTION 2. This act shall take full effect upon its acceptance by vote of the city council of the city of Boston, subject to the provisions of its charter, but not otherwise.

*Approved April 17, 1946.*

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*Chap.219* AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ESTABLISHING OF A RIGHT OF WAY FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO RICHMOND POND IN THE TOWN OF RICHMOND AND THE CITY OF PITTSFIELD.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section one of chapter four hundred and twenty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and forty-five is hereby amended by inserting after the word "Richmond", the first time it occurs in the third line, the words:— or in the city of Pittsfield, or partly in each,— so as to read as follows:— *Section 1.* The county commissioners of Berkshire county are hereby authorized and directed to lay out a right of way in the town of Richmond or in the city of Pittsfield, or partly in each, to Richmond pond for public access to said pond, in accordance with plans to be approved by the department of public works and showing the location and dimensions of such right of way, but such right of way shall not cross the location of any railroad. If it is necessary to acquire land for the purpose of laying out such right of way said county commissioners shall at the time such right of way is laid out take such land by eminent domain under chapter seventy-nine of the General Laws. Any person sustaining damages in his property by the laying out of such right of way, or by specific repairs or improvements thereon, shall be entitled to recover the same under said chapter seventy-nine; provided, that the right to recover damages, if any, by reason of the laying out of such right of way, shall vest upon the recording of the order of taking by said county commissioners and that no entry or possession for the purpose of constructing a