

twelve and shall accept the provisions of this act prior to July first, nineteen hundred and forty-nine, in the case of such a city by vote of the city council subject to the provisions of its charter, and in the case of such a town by vote of the town at a town meeting, notwithstanding any provision of said paragraph to the contrary.

SECTION 2. Nothing in this act shall be interpreted to exclude any person from becoming a member of a contributory retirement system, nor shall it permit any person who is a member of such system to withdraw therefrom.

SECTION 3. The secretary of the commonwealth shall, on or before October first, nineteen hundred and forty-eight, send to each city or town clerk and to each mayor or board of selectmen a notice that the provisions of this act relative to the pensioning of foremen, inspectors, mechanics, draw tenders, assistant draw tenders and storekeepers, may be accepted not later than July first, nineteen hundred and forty-nine.

Approved June 8, 1948.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE RECONSTRUCTION OF GROVELAND BRIDGE, SO CALLED, OVER THE MERRIMACK RIVER BETWEEN THE CITY OF HAVERHILL AND THE TOWN OF GROVELAND.

Chap. 516

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The department of public works is hereby authorized to reconstruct, of such type and dimensions and in such location as it may determine, Groveland bridge, so called, over the Merrimack river, now located between Groveland street in the city of Haverhill and the junction of Main and Park streets in the town of Groveland, including the approaches thereto. Subject to the laws of the United States, said bridge may be constructed either with or without a draw.

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

Approved June 9, 1948.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN INCREASE IN THE SALARY OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

Chap. 517

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is in part to permit forthwith a salary adjustment, 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 2 of chapter 22 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by section 32 of chapter 591 of the acts of 1946, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line five, the word "seven" and inserting in place thereof the word: — eight, — so as to read as follows: — *Section 2.* Upon the expiration of the term of office of a commissioner,

G. L. (Ter. Ed.), 22, § 2, etc., amended.

Salary of commissioner of public safety.

his successor shall be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, for five years. The commissioner shall receive such salary, not exceeding eight thousand dollars, as the governor and council determine.

Effective date.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect as of July first in the current year.

Approved June 9, 1948.

Chap.518 AN ACT MAKING RETROACTIVE TO JULY FIRST, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FORTY-SEVEN THE EXISTING LONGEVITY PROGRAM, SO CALLED, FOR EMPLOYEES OF COUNTIES, EXCEPT SUFFOLK COUNTY.

Emergency preamble.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide without delay additional income for certain county employees in view of the increase in the cost of living, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Except in the county of Suffolk, the county personnel board and the county commissioners are hereby authorized and directed to make retroactive to July first, nineteen hundred and forty-seven, the longevity program, so called, for certain county employees, which was in effect on January first, nineteen hundred and forty-eight.

Approved June 9, 1948.

Chap.519 AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE WATER SUPPLY OF THE COHASSET WATER COMPANY, AND ITS PURCHASE AND OPERATION BY THE TOWN OF COHASSET.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 128 of the acts of 1886 is hereby amended by inserting after section 9 the following section: — *Section 9A.* Said town shall have the right, with the consent of said corporation and its stockholders and subject to written approval of the town counsel of said town, to purchase all the outstanding capital stock, common and preferred, of said corporation for the sole purpose of dissolving and liquidating said corporation and immediately acquiring by transfer all its franchise, corporate property, rights, powers and privileges. Such purchase may but need not necessarily be conditioned upon the stockholder or stockholders paying any excess of current liabilities over current assets, discharging its tax liability, and assuming all other liabilities fixed or contingent.

SECTION 2. The vote of the town of Cohasset passed on the second day of March, nineteen hundred and forty-six under article eleven of the warrant for the annual town meeting for said year is hereby ratified, validated and con-