

SENATE No. 274

To accompany the petition of John B. Atkinson, Edward M. Rowe and others for legislation relative to change in boundaries for the purpose of carrying out certain housing projects or a veterans housing project. [To the joint committee on Ways and Means and the committees on Mercantile Affairs and Municipal Finance, sitting jointly.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Eight.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CHANGE IN BOUNDARIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF CARRYING OUT CERTAIN HOUSING PROJECTS OR A VETERANS HOUSING PROJECT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 42 of the General Laws is hereby amended
2 by inserting therein after section 7 the following
3 section:—

4 *Section 7A.* When an area has been determined
5 by a housing authority:—

6 (1) To be one in which a low rent housing project
7 should be undertaken and such project has been ap-
8 proved by the state board of housing under section
9 twenty-six AA of chapter one hundred and twenty-
10 one of the General Laws, or

11 (2) To be one in which a veterans housing project
12 should be undertaken and such project has been

13 approved by the state board of housing under section
14 twenty-six P of chapter one hundred and twenty-one
15 of the General Laws, or

16 (3) To be a decadent area in which a project for
17 assembly and redevelopment ought to be undertaken
18 and such project has been approved by the state
19 board of housing under section twenty-six KK of
20 chapter one hundred and twenty-one of the General
21 Laws, or

22 (4) Has been approved by the state board of
23 housing as an area for redevelopment by an insurance
24 company or savings bank or group of savings banks
25 under section three of chapter one hundred and
26 twenty-one A of the General Laws, and it appears
27 that such area lies within the limits of two cities or
28 towns, the city or town in which the smaller portion
29 of the area lies may agree to a change of boundaries,
30 without action by the general court, by which the
31 portion of the area located within such city or town
32 shall be annexed to, and for all purposes constitute
33 part of, the city or town in which the larger portion of
34 the area lies, but only upon the following conditions:—

35 (a) The department of public works, upon applica-
36 tion of both of such cities or towns, acting by their
37 respective mayors, managers or selectmen, shall
38 locate and define such proposed changes of boundaries
39 by determining by triangulation the position of each
40 angle or corner in such proposed new boundary lines.

41 (b) Such changes in boundary lines shall be ap-
42 proved by a majority of the city council of each city,
43 with the approval of the mayor or city manager, in
44 cities having the Plan E form of city government,
45 and by a majority of the selectmen of each town.

46 (c) Such changes in boundary lines shall also be

47 approved by the state board of housing after public
48 hearings to be held by it, and after a finding by the
49 board that the acquiring of the territory to be trans-
50 ferred by the change in boundary is necessary for the
51 efficient carrying out of a housing project such as is
52 referred to in this section by the city or town to ac-
53 quire the territory. Notice of such hearing shall be
54 given by publication by a newspaper published in
55 each city or town concerned, or if no newspaper is
56 published in any such city or town, then in the county
57 in which the land is situated, at least fourteen days
58 in advance of such hearing.

59 (d) The area to be transferred by such change in
60 boundaries shall not exceed _____ per cent of
61 the total area to be devoted to such housing project.

62 (e) The city or town acquiring such territory by
63 such change in boundaries shall assume and pay all
64 expenses or damages connected with or arising out of
65 such housing project, and shall exonerate and in-
66 demnify the city or town transferring such land from
67 any such expenses or damages.

