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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 1, 1954.

The committee on Mercantile Affairs, to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 370) of John F. Collins for legislation to lower the age of eligibility for housing accommodations of certain elderly persons of low income, the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 372), of Edmund Dinis and John J. Dwyer for legislation to provide additional assistance for housing of elderly persons of low income; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 536) of John J. Beades that persons of low income who have reached the age of fifty-five be made eligible to receive certain housing accommodations; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 818) of Robert F. Murphy for legislation relative to providing further for the housing of elderly persons of low income and for the creation of a board to review action by the State Housing Board; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1028) of James S. Tremblay for legislation relative to the segregation of elderly persons of low income; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1249) of John J. Beades for an amendment of the law providing for the housing of elderly persons of low income; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1502) of Michael Paul Feeney for providing additional assistance for housing of elderly persons of low income; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2223) of James L. O'Dea, Jr., for legislation to provide housing for elderly people, report the accompanying bill (House, No. 2667).

For the committee,

JOHN J. BEADES.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Four.

### AN ACT RELATIVE TO HOUSING PROJECTS FOR ELDERLY PERSONS OF LOW INCOME.

*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. Section 26UU of chapter 121 of the  
2 General Laws, inserted by section 1 of chapter 668  
3 of the acts of 1953, is hereby amended by striking out  
4 paragraph (d).

1 SECTION 2. Said section 26UU of said chapter 121,  
2 as so inserted, is hereby further amended by striking  
3 out paragraph (e) and inserting in place thereof the  
4 following paragraph: —

5 (e) Projects or parts of projects shall be constructed  
6 for elderly persons of low income and shall be avail-  
7 able and assigned to such persons without regard to  
8 their status as veterans upon the application of such  
9 elderly person or persons and the establishment of  
10 his, her or their eligibility under the provisions of  
11 sections twenty-six SS to twenty-six WW.

1 SECTION 3. Section 26VV of said chapter 121, as  
2 so inserted, is hereby amended by striking out, in  
3 line 10, the word "five" and inserting in place thereof  
4 the word: — fifteen, — and by inserting after the  
5 second sentence the two following sentences: — Each  
6 contract for state financial assistance shall provide  
7 that the commonwealth will pay to the housing author-  
8 ity annual contributions; provided, however, that  
9 the total amount of annual contributions contracted  
10 for by the commonwealth for any one year shall not

11 exceed three hundred and seventy-five thousand dol-  
12 lars. Each such annual contribution by the com-  
13 monwealth shall be paid by the commonwealth upon  
14 approval and certification by the state housing board  
15 to the state comptroller, — so as to read as follows:  
16 — *Section 26VV.* The commonwealth, acting by and  
17 through the state housing board, may enter into a  
18 contract or contracts with a housing authority for  
19 state financial assistance in the form of a guarantee  
20 by the commonwealth of bonds and notes, or either  
21 bonds or notes, of the housing authority issued to  
22 finance the cost of a project or projects or a part or  
23 parts of a project or projects to provide housing for  
24 elderly persons of low income. The amount of bonds  
25 and notes, or bonds or notes, guaranteed by the com-  
26 monwealth under this section shall not exceed fifteen  
27 million dollars. Each contract for state financial  
28 assistance shall provide that the commonwealth will  
29 pay to the housing authority annual contributions;  
30 provided, however, that the total amount of annual  
31 contributions contracted for by the commonwealth  
32 for any one year shall not exceed three hundred and  
33 seventy-five thousand dollars. Each such annual  
34 contribution by the commonwealth shall be paid by  
35 the commonwealth upon approval and certification  
36 by the state housing board to the state comptroller.  
37 The provisions of section twenty-six NN and twenty-  
38 six OO shall, so far as apt, be applicable to contracts  
39 for state financial assistance under this section.

1 SECTION 4. Section 26NN of said chapter 121, as  
2 most recently amended by chapter 116 of the acts of  
3 the current year, is hereby further amended by strik-  
4 ing out the first paragraph and inserting in place  
5 thereof the following paragraph: —

6 Each project developed under this section and  
7 section twenty-six OO shall be administered for occu-  
8 pancy in accordance with section twenty-six FF, ex-  
9 cept clause (c) and except that for each project the

10 authority shall create, during not less than the twelve  
11 years immediately succeeding its issuance of any  
12 bonds, notes or other evidence of indebtedness, a  
13 reserve sufficient to meet the largest principal and  
14 interest payments which will be due on such bonds in  
15 any one year thereafter and shall maintain such re-  
16 serve; and except that each such project shall be  
17 occupied, except as hereinafter provided, by veterans  
18 and their families, and priority shall be given first  
19 to veterans of World War II of low income and to  
20 veterans of low income who have served in the active  
21 military or naval service of the United States at any  
22 time on or after June twenty-seventh, nineteen hun-  
23 dred and fifty, and prior to such date thereafter as  
24 shall later be determined by the chairman; then to  
25 veterans of low income, such low income to be deter-  
26 mined from time to time by the board; then to a  
27 person without regard to family status, who is a  
28 veteran or the widow or the widower of a veteran, and  
29 who is sixty years of age or over; but a housing  
30 authority may remodel or reconstruct parts of projects  
31 erected under this section to make the same available  
32 for occupancy by elderly persons qualifying for hous-  
33 ing under the provisions of section twenty-six UU,  
34 and such remodeled or reconstructed apartments shall  
35 be available for occupancy by eligible elderly persons  
36 of low income only except to the extent that no eligible  
37 veterans apply for such units.