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By Mr. O'Dea of Lowell, petition of James L. O'Dea, Jr., for legislation relative to examination of records of housing authorities by the State Auditor. State Administration.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF HOUSING AUTHORITIES.

*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 121 of the General Laws is hereby amended  
2 by striking out section 26U, as appearing in section 1 of  
3 chapter 574 of the acts of 1946, and inserting in place  
4 thereof the following section:—

5 *Section 26U. Accounts, and Control by Housing Board.*  
6 — Each housing authority shall keep an accurate ac-  
7 count of all its activities and of all its receipts and ex-  
8 penditures and shall annually in the month of January  
9 make a report thereof to the housing board, to the state  
10 auditor and to the mayor of the city or to the selectmen  
11 of the town within which such authority is organized,  
12 such reports to be in a form prescribed by the board,  
13 with the written approval of said auditor. The housing  
14 board or the said auditor may investigate the affairs of  
15 housing authorities and their dealings, transactions and  
16 relationships. They shall severally have the power to  
17 examine into the properties and records of housing au-  
18 thorities and to prescribe methods of accounting and  
19 the rendering of periodical reports in relation to projects  
20 undertaken by such housing authorities. The housing  
21 board may from time to time make, amend and repeal

22 rules and regulations prescribing standards and stating  
23 principles governing the planning, construction, main-  
24 tenance and operation of projects by housing authorities.  
25 Compliance with the Housing Authority Law, the rules  
26 and regulations adopted by the housing board hereunder,  
27 and the terms of a clearance or low-rent housing project  
28 approved by the housing board, may be enforced by a  
29 proceeding in equity.