

HOUSE No. 3696

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, July 30, 2015.

The committee on Housing to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 695) of James B. Eldridge, Sean Garballey, Sal N. DiDomenico, Marjorie C. Decker and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish an apprenticeship program to ready vacant public housing apartments for occupancy and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1108) of Kevin G. Honan and others for legislation to establish an apprentice training program to expedite the re-occupancy of vacant units of state-assisted housing, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 3696) ought to pass.

For the committee,

KEVIN G. HONAN.

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act to establish an apprenticeship program to ready vacant public housing apartments for occupancy.

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. Chapter 121B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 Section 26D, the following:

3 Section 26E: The office of housing and economic development and the office of labor
4 and workforce development shall establish an apprentice training program and a pre-
5 apprenticeship program to expedite the reoccupancy of vacant units, maintain and revitalize
6 state-assisted housing developed through funds provided under chapter 200 of the acts of 1948,
7 chapter 667 of the acts of 1956, chapter 705 of the acts of 1966, chapter 689 of the acts of 1974
8 and chapter 167 of the acts of 1987 and other housing programs financed through the department
9 of housing and community development.

10 The training program shall be developed by the department in consultation with
11 representatives of local housing authorities, public housing residents, public housing industry
12 professional organizations, organizations that represent public housing residents, labor unions,
13 vocational and other educational institutions, and relevant state agencies.

14 The program shall be developed to enable public housing residents to obtain the
15 education, job skills training, job placement assistance, and long-term follow-up leading to
16 economic self-sufficiency; provide public housing authorities and public housing capital
17 assistance teams under Section 26C of Chapter 121B of the General Laws with assistance in the
18 painting and preparation of vacant units to ready them for occupancy and in the maintenance and
19 revitalization of public housing; and to foster the efficient use of public housing capital and
20 maintenance funds.

21 The training program shall be called the Brooke Public Housing Apprenticeship program
22 in honor of former U.S. Senator Edward W. Brooke.

23 The office of labor and workforce development is authorized to make grants to applicants
24 for the purpose of providing an apprenticeship program developed under this Section.