the Insular Treasury not otherwise appropriated, which sum shall be placed at the disposal of the Commissioner of Education to extend the service of vocational orientation in the public schools of Puerto Rico.

Section 2.—From the annual sum appropriated by this Act, one hundred and twenty-five thousand (125,000) dollars shall be devoted to the contracting of technicians in vocational education, whose mission it shall be to give vocational and educational orientation to the pupils attending the urban and rural schools of Puerto Rico; ten thousand (10,000) dollars to the contracting of supervisors; five thousand (5,000) dollars to meet traveling expenses and per diems of supervisors, and ten thousand (10,000) dollars to supplies, printed matter, publications, and other expenditures related to the service of vocational orientation.

Section 3.—All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 4.—This Act, being of an urgent and necessary character, shall take effect July 1, 1944.

Approved, May 14, 1944.

[No. 107] [Approved, May 14, 1944]

AN ACT

TO CREATE THE CANCER INSTITUTE AND TO DETERMINE ITS PURPOSES AND OPERATION; TO REPEAL ACT NO. 268, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO CREATE THE CANCER INSTITUTE; TO DETERMINE ITS PURPOSES AND OPERATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"; APPROVED MAY 15, 1938; TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (500,000) DOLLARS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Cancer is a fearsome disease. In Puerto Rico it inexorably kills one person every four hours. It is especially a disease of adults, but occasionally it also attacks the child and unfaillingly kills him. Almost all its victims are found among persons over thirty-six years of age, that is, among the most productive population in those fields of activities from which the community obtains the elements which determine its welfare and progress: commerce, industry, science, and culture.

In accordance with reports and statistics offered by persons and entities who have devoted themselves to the investigation and
study of what the disease of cancer is and means in our country, said disease, directly or indirectly, causes more havoc and is an even more wretched evil than tuberculosis. However, while tuberculosis has incited our government to give it due attention to prevent and combat it, very little has been done to face the disease of cancer.

The treatment of cancer is difficult, complicated, and expensive, and for that reason it could be afforded by only a very small part of the population of Puerto Rico, exceptionally privileged because of the extent of their financial resources. As a matter of justice and humanity, the state is in duty bound to use all resources at its disposal in order that the needy population may also obtain the benefits of adequate treatment when it becomes the victim of such a terrible affliction.

At this time, with the fortunate increase in the tendency of our government—in its triple legislative, administrative, and executive function—to be an effective instrument of social justice for the people, adequate action for the protection of our population against the havoc caused by cancer has become imperative. The present bill answers the need for such action.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico:

Section 1.—There is hereby established in Puerto Rico, under the Insular Department of Health, an institute the official designation of which shall be Cancer Institute of Puerto Rico.

Section 2.—Its domicile shall be situated in the city of San Juan or in Río Piedras.

Section 3.—The objectives of this institution shall be to diagnose and treat cancer; to use the means available for the prevention of the disease, and to carry out scientific research work to determine its causes and establish better treatment methods.

Section 4.—In order to attain these objectives, the Commissioner of Health is hereby authorized to accept any assistance proffered by private persons or institutions interested in these problems, such as the Liga Puertorriqueña Contra el Cáncer, for the most efficient control of this disease.

Section 5.—The Cancer Institute shall consist of four definite sections, to wit: (1) A special hospital, with capacity for not less than fifty beds, devoted to the diagnosis and treatment of and research in cancer. (2) An external dispensary for the examination and treatment of ambulatory cases. (3) A conveniently equipped laboratory...
laboratory for research purposes. (4) An office for propaganda purposes and to instruct the public in the methods of avoiding cancer and mitigating its havoc.

Section 6.—The Commissioner of Health shall prescribe and promulgate the by-laws which shall govern the institution wherein shall be treated the sick poor attacked by cancer and allied diseases, as well as pay patients, the latter having to pay for their hospitalization in accordance with the rates which the Commissioner of Health may prescribe. The funds obtained from the hospitalization of solvent persons shall be covered into a trust fund to be known as "Cancer Institute, General Expenses, Trust Fund" and shall be used for the payment of the general expenses of the institute.

Section 7.—The direction of the institute shall be in charge of a director, who shall be a physician of recognized experience in this field, and shall be assisted by the necessary competent personnel. The personnel of the institute, including the director, shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Health. All officials and employees of the institute, with the exception of the director, shall be subject to the Civil Service Laws and Rules of Puerto Rico.

Section 8.—The Commissioner of Health shall, immediately upon the approval of this Act, prepare a model budget within the appropriation hereinafter provided, in which he shall include the personnel he may deem necessary for the immediate operation of this institution, the equipment and supplies to be acquired, and other general expenses, including estimate of cost of the building where it is to be installed. Said budget shall be submitted to the Auditor of Puerto Rico, who shall refer it, together with the recommendations which he may deem proper, to the Governor of Puerto Rico for approval. In subsequent years the annual budget which will be in force for the Cancer Institute shall be included in the General Budget of Expenses of the Insular Government.

Section 9.—Upon the approval of this budget, the Commissioner of Health and the Commissioner of the Interior shall acquire, by purchase or donation, an appropriate site for the establishment of the Institute, and the Commissioner of the Interior shall proceed to construct the building, should it be feasible at the present time. If the construction of the building is to be postponed, the Commissioner of Health shall lease any adequate building for the installation thereof. Pending the construction of an adequate building or the leasing of a place, the Commissioner of Health may enter into nientemente equipado para fines de investigación. (4) Una oficina para propaganda y educación del público en los medios de evitar el cáncer y mitigar sus estragos.

Sección 6.—El Comisionado de Sanidad preparará y promulgará el reglamento interno que deberá regir dentro de la institución donde se atenderán los enfermos pobres atacados de cáncer y dolencias aliadas, así como pacientes pudientes, debiendo éstos pagar por su hospitalización de acuerdo con la tarifa que dispusiera el Comisionado de Sanidad. Los fondos obtenidos por la hospitalización de personas solventes ingresarán en un fondo de fideicomiso que se denominará "Instituto del Cáncer, Gastos Generales, Fondo de Fideicomiso" y se aplicará al pago de las atenciones generales del instituto.

Sección 7.—La dirección de la institución estará a cargo de un Director, quien será un médico de experiencia reconocida en este campo, y quien estará auxiliado por el personal idóneo necesario. El personal del instituto, incluyendo el Director, será nombrado por el Comisionado de Sanidad. Con excepción del Director todos los funcionarios y empleados del instituto estarán sujetos a la Ley y Reglas del Servicio Civil de Puerto Rico.

Sección 8.—El Comisionado de Sanidad procederá, inmediatamente de aprobada esta Ley, a preparar un Presupuesto Modelo, dentro de la asignación que más adelante se dispone, en el cual incluirá el personal que estime necesario para el inmediato funcionamiento de esta institución, el equipo y material que deban adquirirse, y otros gastos generales, incluyendo estimado del costo del edificio para su instalación. Este presupuesto será sometido al Hon. Auditor de Puerto Rico, quien lo referirá, con las recomendaciones que estime oportunas, al Hon. Gobernador de Puerto Rico para su aprobación. En años ulteriores el presupuesto anual a regir para el Instituto del Cáncer será incluido en el Presupuesto General de Gastos del Gobierno Insular.

Sección 9.—Una vez aprobado este presupuesto, el Comisionado de Sanidad y el Comisionado del Interior adquirirán, mediante compra o donación, un sitio apropiado para la fundación del Instituto y el Comisionado del Interior procederá a la construcción del edificio, si esto fuesa viable en los momentos actuales. En el caso de que hubiere de posponerse la construcción del edificio, el Comisionado de Sanidad procederá a adquirir en arrendamiento cualquier edificio adecuado para su instalación. Mientras se construye un edificio apropiado o se adquiere un local en arrendamiento, el Comisionado de Sanidad podrá celebrar un contrato con cualquier organización
a contract with any private organization, such as the Liga Puertorriqueña Contra el Cáncer, for the immediate care of cancer cases in need of urgent assistance, the services rendered by said organization to insolvent patients to be paid for in accordance with a fixed rate per visit and treatment, for which purpose the necessary item shall be included in the budget to be approved.

Section 10.—The sum of five hundred thousand (500,000) dollars, or such part thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated out of any available funds in the Insular Treasury for the proper enforcement of this Act.

Section 11.—Act No. 203, entitled “An Act to create the Cancer Institute; to determine its purposes and operation, and for other purposes,” approved May 15, 1938, is hereby repealed.

Section 12.—All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 13.—A public emergency is hereby declared to exist which requires that this Act take effect immediately after its approval.

Approved, May 14, 1944.

[No. 108]
[Approved, May 15, 1944]

AN ACT
TO APPROPRIATE, FROM ANY AVAILABLE FUNDS IN THE INSULAR TREASURY NOT OTHERWISE APPROPRIATED, THE SUM OF TWO MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND (2,200,000) DOLLARS TO BE EXPENDED BY THE PUERTO RICO HOUSING AUTHORITY, AND THE SUM OF ONE MILLION (1,000,000) DOLLARS TO BE EXPENDED BY THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CAPITAL OF PUERTO RICO, IN THE PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, AND IN THE PURCHASE OF LAND, FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOW-RENT HOUSING PROJECTS FOR FAMILIES OF SMALL INCOME, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POWERS AND FACULTIES CONFERRED UPON THEM BY ACT NO. 126, OF MAY 6, 1938, AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico:

Section 1.—There is hereby appropriated out of any available funds in the Insular Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of two million two hundred thousand (2,200,000) dollars which shall be placed at the disposal of the Puerto Rico Housing Authority, and the sum of one million (1,000,000) dollars which shall be placed at

privada, tal como la Liga Puertorriqueña Contra el Cáncer, para la atención inmediata de los casos de cáncer que urgentemente requiera atención, compensándose por los servicios que ésta preste a los casos insolventes a base de una tarifa fija por visita y tratamiento, para cuya contingencia se incluirá la partida necesaria en el presupuesto a aprobar.

Sección 10.—Para el debido cumplimiento de esta Ley, de cualesquiera fondos de libre disposición del Tesoro Insular, se asigna la cantidad de quinientos mil (500,000) dólares, o la parte de ella que fuere necesaria.

Sección 11.—Por la presente se deroga la Ley No. 203, titulada: “Para crear el ‘Instituto del Cáncer’; determinar sus propósitos y funcionamiento, y para otros fines”, aprobada en 15 de mayo de 1938.

Sección 12.—Toda ley o parte de ley que se oponga a la presente, queda por ésta derogada.

Sección 13.—Se declara que existe una emergencia pública que hace necesario que esta Ley comience a regir inmediatamente después de su aprobación.

Aprobada en 14 de mayo de 1944.

[No. 108]
[Aprobada en 15 de mayo de 1944]

LEY
PARA ASIGNAR DE CUALESQUIERA FONDOS DISPONIBLES EN EL TESORO INSULAR, NO DESTINADOS A OTRAS ATENCIÓINES, LA SUMA DE DOS MILLONES DOSCIENTOS MIL (2,200,000) DOLARES PARA SER INVERTIDOS POR LA AUTORIDAD Sobre HOGARES DE PUERTO RICO, Y LA SUMA DE UN MILLON (1,000,000) DE DOLARES PARA SER INVERTIDOS POR LA AUTORIDAD MUNICIPAL SOBRE HOGARES DE LA CAPITAL DE PUERTO RICO EN LA PREPARACIÓN DE PLANES, ESPECIFICACIONES Y COMPRAS DE TIERRA PARA EL DESARROLLO DE PROYECTOS DE HOGARES DE BAJA RENTA PARA FAMILIAS DE POCOS INGRESOS, DE CONFORMIDAD CON LOS PODERES Y FACULTADES CONFERIDAS POR LA LEY NUM. 126, DE 6 DE MAYO DE 1938, SEGÚN HA SIDO POSTERIORMENTE ENMENDADA, Y PARA OTROS FINES.

Decretose por la Asamblea Legislativa de Puerto Rico:

Sección 1.—Por la presente se asignan de cualesquiera fondos disponibles en el Tesoro Insular no destinados a otras atenciones, la suma de dos millones doscientos mil (2,200,000) dólares que será puesta a la disposición de la Autoridad Sobre Hogares de Puerto Rico, y la suma de un millón (1,000,000) de dólares que será puesta