

HOUSE No. 61

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
200 NEWBURY STREET, BOSTON 16, November 3, 1948.

*To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives, State House,
Boston, Massachusetts.*

GENTLEMEN:— In accordance with the provisions of section 33 of chapter 30 of the General Laws, a copy of the recommendations for legislation to be contained in the annual report of this department (Public Document No. 2) is submitted, together with drafts of bills embodying the legislation recommended. The drafts of legislation have been submitted to the Counsel of the Senate as required by law.

JOHN J. DESMOND, JR.

Commissioner of Education.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATION.

1. AN ACT TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM STANDARDS TO BE OBSERVED IN THE APPOINTMENT OF TEACHERS IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

For many years several bills relative to certification of public school teachers have been presented to the General Court. The sponsors in the vast majority of cases have been individuals and associations representing teachers, superintendents, and other persons actually engaged in public school work. The recent Recess Commissions studying educational matters have considered the subject of certification and the present educational Recess Commission has the subject of certification on its agenda. The Department of Education has made an intensive study of the subject and is expressing its conclusions in the form of the accompanying bill attached hereto and designated as Appendix A. Therefore, I respectfully recommend the passage of said bill.

2. AN ACT PROVIDING FOR STATE REIMBURSEMENT TO TOWNS ON ACCOUNT OF TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS TO VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS.

For many years the state has made certain reimbursements to cities and towns on account of transportation of pupils to certain vocational schools. The factors determining such reimbursement were expressed in the provisions of G. L., c. 74, § 8A, which section referred to certain sections in G. L., c. 71; viz., §§ 6 and 7. However, the recent transportation act (chap. 679 of 1947) struck out the significant factors in §§ 6 and 7 of c. 71, thereby nullifying § 8A of c. 74 of the General Laws. Therefore, it becomes necessary to amend § 8A of c. 74 and to provide therein factors to facilitate its operation. The ac-

companying bill designated as Appendix B accomplishes this end and, therefore, I respectfully recommend its enactment.

3. AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS
FOR THE SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM.

Chapter 548 of the acts of 1948 provides for the use of local funds to be expended in conjunction with federal funds which may accrue to the state on account of the National School Lunch Act. Inadvertently the word "appropriate" was used in reference to the local school committee. This was unintentional as our Massachusetts school committees are never appropriating bodies and it seems clear that the legislature did not intend to depart in this instance from the traditional fiscal relationship between a local school committee and its local appropriating body (city council, board of aldermen, town meeting, etc.). Therefore, the accompanying bill designated as Appendix C strikes out the word "appropriate" and inserts in place thereof the word "expend" and I respectfully recommend the enactment of this bill.

