

# SENATE . . . . No. 826

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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### SECOND INTERIM REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ON HEALTH AND WELFARE TRUST FUNDS IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

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SEPTEMBER 25, 1956.

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives.*

Pursuant to the terms of chapter 107 of the Resolves of 1955 and chapter 59 of the Resolves of 1956, the Commission on Health and Welfare Trust Funds in the Commonwealth has held hearings and is continuing its study of this matter.

Earlier in the year this Commission held hearings and heard reports from various department heads of the Commonwealth, including the Commissioner of Insurance, the Commissioner of Banks and Banking, and a representative of the Attorney General's office. In addition it has held many hearings attended by representatives of labor, management and the insurance and banking industries.

A subcommittee has conferred with the staff of the United States Senate subcommittee in Washington. As a result of complaints received, individual case studies have been commenced. In addition a vast amount of statistical data is being accumulated, and at this time it is evident that there are approximately two billion dollars of these funds in Massachusetts.

The subject matter of the study has a deep effect on the economy of the Commonwealth. Its complexity is such that the committee cannot complete its work before the first Wednesday in December of 1956. The Commission therefore requests a further extension of time until the first

Wednesday of December, 1957, within which to make a final report. Legislation to that effect is attached hereto.

PATRICK F. PLUNKETT.

SILVIO O. CONTE.

FRANCIS X. McCANN.

WILLIAM W. JENNESS.

ANTHONY W. SPADAFORA.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

RESOLVE FURTHER REVIVING AND CONTINUING THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ESTABLISHED TO STUDY AND INVESTIGATE THE NEED FOR ADMINISTRATION AND REGULATION OF HEALTH AND WELFARE TRUST FUNDS IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

1     *Resolved*, That the unpaid special commission estab-  
2     lished by chapter one hundred and seven of the resolves  
3     of nineteen hundred and fifty-five and revived and con-  
4     tinued by chapter fifty-nine of the resolves of nineteen  
5     hundred and fifty-six is hereby further revived and con-  
6     tinued for the purpose of continuing its investigation and  
7     study of the need for administration and regulation of  
8     health and welfare trust funds in the commonwealth and  
9     all other questions in relation thereto that would aid  
10    the general court in enacting any necessary remedial  
11    legislation.

12    Said commission in making its study and investiga-  
13    tion may consider all the aspects of such funds, including,  
14    but not limiting, its study and investigation thereto, in-  
15    sured, non-insured and self-administered funds, funds  
16    jointly administered under trust instruments and funds  
17    providing any or all of the following benefits: death,  
18    cash disability, hospital, medical, surgical and pension  
19    or retirement benefits.

20    Said commission shall be provided with quarters in  
21    the state house or elsewhere, shall hold public hearings,  
22    may travel within and without the commonwealth, may  
23    sit during the session and recess of the general court, may  
24    require by summons the attendance of such witnesses  
25    and the production of such books, papers and documents  
26    and take such testimony as it deems necessary.

27 Said commission during its study and investigation  
28 shall have the assistance of such departments, boards,  
29 commissions, agents and officers of the state government  
30 as may be requested by said commission to assist and  
31 co-operate.

32 Said commission shall report its findings to the general  
33 court at such time or times as it may deem advisable,  
34 but in any event, shall file a final report not later than  
35 the first Wednesday in December, nineteen hundred and  
36 fifty-seven.

37 Said commission may expend for expenses and legal,  
38 clerical and other assistance the balance available in  
39 Item 0256-14 of section two of chapter six hundred and  
40 eighty-eight of the acts of nineteen hundred and fifty-  
41 six, and such other sums as may be appropriated there-  
42 for.