

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, August 4, 1941.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

I am returning to you herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 2335, being "An Act further regulating the hours of duty of permanent members of fire departments in certain cities and towns".

In my recent message to you on this bill, not wishing to veto it, I stated that I believed in its purposes but was opposed to its passage during the present national emergency. I regret that my recommendation to postpone its effective date was opposed. This leaves me the only alternative, to sustain my convictions, of returning the bill without my approval, which I hereby do.

We all want to continue the present trend toward shorter working hours and more leisure for all when conditions are such as to warrant it. This situation, in my humble opinion, does not exist at a time when the President of the United States and Congress are extending the length of active service of the men in the National Guard and those subject to the draft. These men are making great sacrifices by leaving their homes and work and are giving all their time and efforts to the national crisis.

Let such a measure as this bill become law when the present emergency is over — but not now.

Very respectfully yours,

LEVERETT SALTONSTALL,
Governor of the Commonwealth.

