

SENATE No. 541

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, June 11, 1943.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

Recently your honorable bodies enacted, and I signed AN ACT REQUIRING THAT EMPLOYERS PAYING WAGES BY CHECK SHALL PROVIDE REASONABLE FACILITIES FOR THE CASHING OF THE SAME WITHOUT CHARGE, being Senate No. 483.

On June 10th, upon receiving information from the Treasurer and Receiver-General of the Commonwealth that there was very serious doubt whether the Act was "readily workable so far as employees in some of our institutions are concerned, although the purpose of the Act is unquestionably meritorious", I recommended that said Chapter 378 be amended to include a sentence "that the Treasurer and Receiver-General of the Commonwealth may in his discretion exempt himself and any public officer from the provisions of this Act".

I renew this recommendation, and I am happy to make it sufficiently broad so that, if you do not believe that the Treasurer and Receiver-General is the proper state officer to exercise this discretion, any other officer or officers of the Commonwealth be given this responsibility. The Treasurer and Receiver-General is the paymaster of the Commonwealth, and as such he has seemed to me to be the officer that should exercise this discretion.

I am renewing this message to you because as he points out to me, institutions owned by the State are located far in the country, i.e., Danvers State Hospital, Gardner

State Hospital, Medfield State Hospital, the Belcher-town State School, and several others that readily come to mind. As the Act is mandatory, in its present form and carries penal provisions, there must be some discretion or else no responsible person will be willing to serve as paymaster.

LEVERETT SALTONSTALL,

Governor.