

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, JUNE 14, 1946.

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:*

I return herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 2061 entitled, "AN ACT RELATIVE TO PENSIONS FOR THE COUNSEL TO THE SENATE AND THE COUNSEL TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES."

The intent of this bill is to afford to the Counsel and Assistant Counsel of the Senate and of the House of Representatives a pension for life at an annual rate equal to one-half of the average annual rate of salary paid to him during the ten years immediately preceding the termination of his tenure. The conditions requisite for the pension are twenty years faithful service in the office and attaining the age of sixty-five years. It is also provided that no one appointed subsequent to December 31, 1945, receive the benefits of the bill.

I must withhold approval of this legislation. It sets up within the Retirement System a special group. This group is awarded a retirement allowance that is materially more beneficial than that awarded to the other members of the System. The structure of the Retirement System would be weakened by the enactment of this bill.

Faithful and competent service always deserves your commendation. Yet we cannot in justice to the rank and file of the membership in the Retirement System set up special privileges for a few.

Respectfully yours,

MAURICE J. TOBIN,  
*Governor.*

