

HOUSE No. 2385

Substituted by the House, on motion of Mr. McCarthy of East Bridgewater, for the Resolve reviving and continuing the special commission established to make a survey and study of problems relating to veterans, including housing and hospital facilities (Senate, No. 555). June 8.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Eight.

RESOLVE REVIVING AND CONTINUING THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ESTABLISHED TO MAKE A SURVEY AND STUDY OF PROBLEMS RELATING TO VETERANS, INCLUDING HOUSING AND HOSPITAL FACILITIES, INCLUDING ANY MATTERS RELATING TO VETERANS OR VETERAN LEGISLATION OR THEIR ORGANIZATIONS, OR DEPENDENTS OR RELATIVES OF VETERANS.

1 *Resolved*, That the unpaid special commission es-
2 tablished by chapter sixty-eight of the resolves of
3 nineteen hundred and forty-seven is hereby revived
4 and continued for the purpose of continuing its survey
5 and study of problems relating to veterans, including
6 veterans' benefits and housing and hospital facilities.
7 Said commission, in co-operation with the state hous-
8 ing board, shall specifically study housing facilities in
9 relation to veterans as provided in current house bill
10 numbered two thousand and three relative to pro-
11 viding financial assistance by the commonwealth to
12 housing authorities in order to alleviate the housing
13 shortage for veterans. Said commission shall also
14 study the progress and development of the authorized

15 hospital addition at the Soldiers' Home in Massachu-
16 setts at Chelsea and the proposed Soldiers' Home to
17 be constructed in the city of Holyoke. Said commis-
18 sion shall also study the matter of veterans' benefits
19 and the operation of all laws relating to assistance to
20 and benefits for veterans, including the subject matter
21 of current house document numbered two thousand
22 and fifty-three, relative to the filing of applications for
23 payments under the veterans' bonus law, so called;
24 and it shall also study the desirability of fixing a date
25 after which no person entering the armed services of
26 the United States shall be eligible to receive benefits
27 under chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General
28 Laws. Said committee shall make a study and investi-
29 gation relative to the granting of the benefits of certain
30 laws relating to veterans and to organizations com-
31 posed of persons not all of whom are included within
32 the definition of veteran as set forth in section one of
33 chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws,
34 as appearing in section one of chapter five hundred and
35 eighty-four of the acts of nineteen hundred and forty-
36 six. In the course of its investigation and study, said
37 commission shall consider the subject matter of
38 current senate documents numbered fifty-eight, two
39 hundred and ninety, two hundred and ninety-nine,
40 three hundred and eighteen and five hundred and
41 fifty-one, and current house documents numbered
42 five hundred and nine, five hundred and ninety-nine,
43 seven hundred and ninety-one, seven hundred and
44 ninety-two, ten hundred and twenty-six, ten hundred
45 and twenty-seven, ten hundred and thirty, thirteen
46 hundred and thirty-six, thirteen hundred and thirty-
47 seven, thirteen hundred and ninety-seven, fourteen
48 hundred and ninety-two, fourteen hundred and
49 ninety-four, fourteen hundred and ninety-six, fifteen

50 hundred and one, fifteen hundred and thirty-five,
51 sixteen hundred and fifty-four, sixteen hundred and
52 fifty-six, two thousand and fifty-nine and twenty-one
53 hundred and four. Said commission, during its
54 inquiry, shall have the assistance and co-operation of
55 the attorney general, the department of veterans'
56 services, the state treasurer and such other depart-
57 ments, boards, commissions and officers of the state
58 government as may be requested by said commission
59 to assist and co-operate. In the course of its investi-
60 gation and study said commission shall also consider,
61 with the co-operation of the attorney general, the
62 subject matter of such Opinions of the Justices of the
63 Supreme Judicial Court as may be relative to the
64 expenditure of public money for the purposes set
65 forth in the various senate and house documents
66 referred to above. Said commission may require
67 any organization referred to in said senate and house
68 documents, or any officer of any such organization,
69 to produce certified copies of any and all charters,
70 by-laws and documents, or any amendments thereto,
71 relative to the purposes, membership or any other
72 pertinent information concerning any such organiza-
73 tion. Said commission shall be provided with quarters
74 in the state house or elsewhere and may expend for
75 necessary assistance and expenses such sums as may
76 hereafter be appropriated therefor. Said commission
77 shall report to the general court the results of its
78 investigations and its recommendations, if any, to-
79 gether with drafts of legislation necessary to carry
80 such recommendations into effect, by filing the same
81 with the clerk of the senate not later than the first
82 Wednesday of December in the year nineteen hundred
83 and forty-nine.

The first of these is the fact that the
 government has been successful in
 its efforts to reduce the
 deficit. This is a significant
 achievement, especially in light of
 the fact that the economy has
 been growing steadily since
 the recession. The government
 has also been successful in
 reducing the unemployment rate,
 which is a positive sign for
 the economy. However, there are
 still some challenges ahead,
 particularly in the area of
 infrastructure and social
 services. The government will
 need to continue to work hard
 to address these issues and
 ensure a bright future for
 the country.