

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

REPORT

OF THE

SPECIAL COMMISSION

TO

MAKE A FURTHER STUDY OF CERTAIN
MATTERS RELATING TO
THE BLIND

UNDER CHAPTER 72 OF THE RESOLVES OF 1948

NOVEMBER, 1948

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION.

Appointed —

By the President of the Senate.

Sen. HARRY P. McALLISTER of Worcester.

By the Speaker of the House.

Rep. GEORGE GREENE of Boston.

Rep. HOWARD WHITMORE, Jr., of Newton.

Rep. FRANCIS V. MATERA of Boston.

By the Governor.

ROBERT M. PROUTY of Hingham.

KATHARINE D. HARDWICK of Boston.

MADLINE JACOBS of Winchester.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION TO STUDY CERTAIN MATTERS RELATING TO THE BLIND.

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, November 29, 1948.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In accordance with the provisions of chapter 72 of the Resolves of 1948, the Special Commission appointed thereunder presents herewith its report upon its study of certain matters relating to the blind.

Said chapter 72 of the Resolves of 1948 provides as follows:

Resolved, That an unpaid special commission, consisting of one member of the senate to be designated by the president thereof, three members of the house of representatives to be designated by the speaker thereof and three persons to be appointed by the governor, is hereby established for the purpose of making a further study of matters pertaining to blind persons in this commonwealth, with a view to providing further assistance to them. Said commission may expend for clerical and other assistance and expenses such sums as may be appropriated therefor. Said commission shall report to the general court the results of its investigation and study, and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry such recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the clerk of the house of representatives on or before the first Wednesday of December in the current year.

Pursuant to said resolve, the President of the Senate appointed Senator Harry P. McAllister of Worcester, the Speaker of the House of Representatives appointed Representatives George Greene of Boston, Howard Whitmore, Jr., of Newton, and Francis V. Matera of Boston,

and the Governor appointed Robert M. Prouty of Hingham, Katharine D. Hardwick of Boston and Mrs. Sumner C. Jacobs of Winchester.

The Commission held several meetings and considered ways and means of providing more adequate assistance for blind persons. The Commission visited the city of New York and inspected the workshops conducted therein for the employment of the blind.

Due to the short period of time that has elapsed since the organization of the Commission, it has been impossible to make a complete study of the subject matter referred to it, and it is respectfully requested that the Commission be revived and continued in order that a thorough and complete study of the subject matter may be made before specific recommendations are made by the Commission.

A draft of legislation to carry said recommendation into effect is submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRY P. McALLISTER.

ROBERT M. PROUTY.

HOWARD WHITMORE, JR.

MADELINE JACOBS.

GEORGE GREENE.

KATHARINE D. HARDWICK.

FRANCIS V. MATERA.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

RESOLVE REVIVING AND CONTINUING THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ESTABLISHED TO MAKE A STUDY OF CERTAIN MATTERS RELATING TO THE BLIND.

1 *Resolved*, That the unpaid special commission es-
2 tablished by chapter seventy-two of the resolves of
3 nineteen hundred and forty-eight is hereby revived
4 and continued for the purpose of continuing its study
5 of certain matters relating to the blind. Said com-
6 mission may travel within and without the common-
7 wealth and may expend for clerical and other services
8 and expenses the unexpended balance of the sum
9 appropriated by Item 0236 of section two of chapter
10 six hundred and sixty-nine of the acts of 1948, and in
11 addition such sums as may be appropriated therefor.
12 Said commission shall make a report to the general
13 court of the results of its study, and its recommenda-
14 tions, together with drafts of legislation necessary to
15 give effect to the same, by filing the same with the
16 clerk of the house of representatives on or before the
17 first Wednesday of December in the current year.

