

# HOUSE . . . . No. 2161

---

---

By Messrs. Burke of Boston, Feeney of Boston and Patrone of Boston, petition of James A. Burke, Michael Paul Feeney, Charles L. Patrone, Daniel Rudsten, Charles I. Taylor and another for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the layoff of employees of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad and of other industrial establishments. Labor and Industries.

---

---

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

---

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

---

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO THE LAYOFF OF EMPLOYEES OF THE NEW YORK, NEW HAVEN AND HARTFORD RAILROAD, AND RELATIVE TO OTHER LARGE LAYOFFS OF EMPLOYEES IN THE VARIOUS INDUSTRIES.

1 *Resolved*, That an unpaid special commission, to  
2 consist of one member of the senate to be designated  
3 by the president thereof, three members of the house  
4 of representatives to be designated by the speaker  
5 thereof, and three persons to be appointed by the  
6 governor, hereinafter called the commission, is hereby  
7 established for the purpose of making an immediate  
8 investigation relative to the layoff of employees at  
9 the Readville shops of the New York, New Haven and  
10 Hartford Railroad and of other employees of said  
11 railroad, the layoff of employees of the General  
12 Electric Company, the Waltham Watch Company  
13 and other layoffs of one hundred or more employees

14 in the various industries. The commission shall as-  
15 certain the causes of such layoffs, and shall ascertain  
16 to what extent, if any, such layoffs are due to unlawful  
17 acts or practices on the part of the employers. The  
18 commission shall also investigate as to the best  
19 methods of terminating such existing layoffs and of  
20 preventing recurrences thereof. The commission  
21 shall be provided with quarters in the state house or  
22 elsewhere, shall hold public hearings, and shall have  
23 the power to summon witnesses and to require the  
24 production of books, records, contracts and papers  
25 and the giving of testimony under oath. The com-  
26 mission may expend for expert, clerical and other  
27 services and expenses a sum not exceeding five  
28 thousand dollars, which sum is hereby appropri-  
29 ated from the general fund or revenue of the com-  
30 monwealth. The commission shall report to the gen-  
31 eral court the results of its investigation, and its  
32 recommendations, by filing the same with the clerk  
33 of the house of representatives not later than the  
34 first Monday of April in the current year.