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To accompany the petition of John E. Powers that provision be made for an investigation and study by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relating to the administration of local governments, the granting of State aid thereto and methods of promoting the efficiency and economy of local governments. State Administration.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Five.

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RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION AND STUDY BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, THE GRANTING OF STATE AID THERETO, AND METHODS OF PROMOTING THE EFFICIENCY AND ECONOMY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

1 *Resolved*, That an unpaid special commission, con-  
2 sisting of four members of the senate to be designated  
3 by the president thereof, four members of the house of  
4 representatives to be designated by the speaker thereof  
5 and six persons to be appointed by the governor, two of  
6 whom shall be mayors of cities within the common-  
7 wealth, two of whom shall be selectmen of towns within  
8 the commonwealth, and two of whom shall be persons  
9 with experience in local financial administration, and the  
10 commissioner of corporations and taxation, or his desig-  
11 nated representative, serving ex officio, is hereby estab-  
12 lished (1) to study and investigate the statutory organi-  
13 zation, powers and duties of the local governments of  
14 the commonwealth, with a view to recommending such  
15 changes in the laws pertaining thereto as, in its opinion,  
16 will tend to enable such governments to operate more  
17 efficiently and more economically; (2) to study and in-  
18 vestigate the administration of state aid to local gov-  
19 ernments, with a view to recommending such action as  
20 will tend to maximize the effectiveness of such aid and

21 to prevent waste in the administration thereof; (3) to  
22 study and investigate the statutory organization, powers  
23 and duties of the metropolitan district commission and  
24 the several local governments in the Boston metropolitan  
25 area, with a view to recommending such changes as might  
26 facilitate better government in the metropolitan area;  
27 and (4) to make such other studies of local government  
28 within the commonwealth as, in its opinion, may pave  
29 the way for efficiency and economy in the transaction of  
30 local government business and the administration of  
31 state aid to local governments in the commonwealth.

32 Said commission shall be provided with quarters in  
33 the state house or elsewhere, may hold public hearings,  
34 may travel within or without the commonwealth and  
35 may sit during the recess of the general court. It may  
36 call upon any department, commission, board or officer  
37 of the commonwealth or its several local governments  
38 for such information as it may desire in the course of its  
39 investigation, may require by summons the attendance  
40 and testimony under oath of witnesses and the produc-  
41 tion of books and papers, and may expend for technical,  
42 clerical and other assistance such sums as may be appro-  
43 priated therefor. Said commission shall report from time  
44 to time to the general court the results of its investiga-  
45 tion and study and its recommendations, if any, to-  
46 gether with drafts of legislation necessary to carry said  
47 recommendations into effect, and shall file its final report  
48 with the clerk of the senate not later than March thirty-  
49 first, nineteen hundred and fifty-six.