
To accompany the petition of Elizabeth A. Stanton and the Disabled American Veterans, Department of Massachusetts, by Joseph R. Harold, that provision be made for a survey and study by an unpaid special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the establishment of a State mental hospital for the care and treatment of veterans. Public Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR A SURVEY AND STUDY RELATIVE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE MENTAL HOSPITAL FOR THE CARE AND TREATMENT OF VETERANS.

1 *Resolved*, That an unpaid special commission to con-
2 sist of the commissioner of veterans' services or his rep-
3 resentative, the commissioner of mental health or his
4 representative, two members of the senate to be desig-
5 nated by the president thereof, three members of the
6 house of representatives to be designated by the speaker
7 thereof, and two persons to be appointed by the gover-
8 nor, is hereby established to sit during the session and
9 the recess of the general court for the purpose of making
10 a survey and study of the advisability of the establish-
11 ment of a state mental hospital for the exclusive care
12 and treatment of veterans.

13 Said commission, in making its survey and study,
14 shall consider the problems of mentally ill veterans,
15 particularly those who require institutional care and
16 treatment and for whom the facilities of federal hospi-
17 tals within the commonwealth are not available, whether
18 the psychiatric or neurological disabilities of such vet-
19 erans are recognized by federal authorities to be service-
20 connected or otherwise.

21 Said commission, in making its survey and study, shall
22 especially consider federal laws and regulations pertain-
23 ing to state hospitals and institutions for the exclusive
24 care and treatment of veterans, to the end that proper
25 advantage may be taken of allocation of federal funds
26 for reimbursement of the commonwealth.

27 Said commission shall be provided with suitable quar-
28 ters in the state house or elsewhere, may travel within
29 and without the commonwealth, may hold public hear-
30 ings and may expend such sums for legal, technical,
31 expert, clerical and other assistance and expenses as
32 may be appropriated therefor.

33 Said commission may call upon officials of the com-
34 monwealth or political or other subdivisions thereof for
35 such information as it may require in the course of its
36 survey and study, may require by summons the attend-
37 ance of witnesses, may administer oaths and require the
38 production of such records and documents as it deems
39 essential for the purpose of such survey and study.

40 Said commission shall report to the general court the
41 results of its survey and study, and its recommendations,
42 if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to
43 carry its recommendations into effect, by filing the same
44 with the clerk of the senate on or before the last Wednes-
45 day of January, nineteen hundred and fifty-seven.