

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 1134

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By Mr. Foley of Northampton, petition of John J. O'Rourke and Jeremiah J. Foley for the payment from the state treasury of a sum of money to Barbara S. Brown of Northampton whose husband was killed while on duty as a member of the Massachusetts Air National Guard. Ways and Means (Joint).

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

### RESOLVE IN FAVOR OF BARBARA S. BROWN OF NORTHAMPTON.

1 *Resolved*, That for the purpose of discharging a moral obliga-  
2 tion of the commonwealth, and after an appropriation has been  
3 made therefor, there be allowed and paid out of the state treasury  
4 to Barbara S. Brown of Northampton, whose husband, Lieuten-  
5 ant Richard G. Brown, was killed on October nineteenth, nine-  
6 teen hundred and fifty-four, while on duty as a member of the  
7 Massachusetts Air National Guard, in Westfield, Massachu-  
8 setts, the sum of twenty-five dollars weekly for a period of four  
9 years. Said four-year period shall begin July first, nineteen  
10 hundred and fifty-eight, and end June thirtieth, nineteen hundred  
11 and sixty-two. No payment shall be made hereunder until there  
12 has been filed with the comptroller an affidavit signed by said  
13 Barbara S. Brown that no money has been paid to anyone to  
14 secure the passage of this resolve.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE

IN THE SENATE

REPORT OF THE

1. The first section of the constitution provides that the powers of the government shall be divided into three distinct departments, the legislative, the executive, and the judicial, and that no person shall exercise the powers of more than one of these departments. This principle of the separation of powers is one of the most important features of the constitution, and it is designed to prevent the accumulation of too much power in any one person or body of men. The legislative department is entrusted with the power of making laws, the executive with the power of enforcing them, and the judicial with the power of interpreting them. Each department is checked and balanced by the others, so that no one branch can become too powerful. This system of checks and balances is essential to the preservation of liberty and the good government of the state.