

By Mr. Mooney of Nantucket, petition of Robert F. Mooney for an investigation by a special commission to be appointed by the Governor of the operation of steamships and other means of water transportation between the islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket and the mainland of the Commonwealth. Transportation.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO THE OPERATION OF STEAMSHIPS AND OTHER MEANS OF WATER TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN THE ISLANDS OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD AND NANTUCKET AND THE MAINLAND OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

1 *Resolved*, That an unpaid special commission, to consist of  
2 three persons to be appointed by the governor, is hereby estab-  
3 lished for the purpose of making an investigation of the opera-  
4 tion of steamships and other means of water transportation  
5 between the islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket and  
6 the mainland of the commonwealth, with a view to the future  
7 alteration, abolition, or liquidation of the New Bedford, Woods  
8 Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority  
9 and its replacement by other means of transportation. Said  
10 commission shall determine ways and means of accomplishing  
11 such alteration, abolition, or liquidation, and shall determine  
12 what action should be taken to better serve the interests of the  
13 public with respect to said transportation in matters relating to  
14 equipment, terminals, passenger and freight rates and other  
15 matters of relevance. Said commission shall have the advice and  
16 assistance of an unpaid advisory committee to consist of one  
17 resident of New Bedford, one resident of Falmouth, one resident  
18 of Hyannis, one resident of Martha's Vineyard, and one resident  
19 of Nantucket, but no member of said commission shall be a  
20 resident of either of the aforesaid communities. Said commis-

21 sion may call upon the department of public utilities and other  
22 departments, commissions, authorities, boards and officers of the  
23 commonwealth for such information as it may desire in the source  
24 of its investigation. Said commission shall be provided with  
25 quarters in the state house or elsewhere, shall hold public hear-  
26 ings, shall have the power to summon witnesses and to require  
27 the production of books, records, contracts and papers and the  
28 giving of testimony under oath and may expend for expert,  
29 clerical and other services and expenses such sums as may here-  
30 after be appropriated therefor. Said commission shall report to  
31 the general court the results of its investigation, and its recom-  
32 mendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary  
33 to carry its recommendations into effect, by filing the same with  
34 the clerk of the house of representatives not later than the  
35 fourth Wednesday of January, nineteen hundred and sixty.