

SENATE No. 301

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SENATE, March 19, 1929.

The committee on Insurance, to whom were referred so much of the Governor's Address (Senate, No. 1) as relates to compulsory insurance for owners and operators of motor vehicles; and the petition (with accompanying bill Senate, No. 26) of Armand C. Bang for the establishment of a state fund for the purpose of providing compensation to persons injured in motor vehicle accidents; petition (with accompanying bill Senate, No. 131) of the Massachusetts Automobile Dealer & Garage Association, Inc., by Day Baker, for legislation to provide protection to the public from death or personal injury caused by motor vehicle operators; petition (with accompanying bill, Senate, No. 173) of James G. Moran that operators instead of owners of motor vehicles be made subject to the compulsory automobile insurance law, so called; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 94) of William S. Youngman relative to the cost to insurance companies of furnishing to owners of motor vehicles liability insurance against death and personal injuries; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 95) of Frank D. Crowley for the uniform classification of risks and premium charges under the law relative to the compulsory insurance of motor vehicles; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 96) of Joseph Finnegan for legislation prohibiting territorial classifications under the law providing for compulsory liability insurance by owners of motor vehicles; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 193) of Joseph LaFontaine for the establishment of a system of insurance of motor vehicles under

the administration of the Commonwealth; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 225) of Frank A. Goodwin for the establishment of a state motor vehicle insurance fund for the purpose of providing compensation for injuries and deaths due to accidents caused by motor vehicles; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 258) of John J. Cummings for the incorporation of the Massachusetts Motor Vehicle Mutual Insurance Association and that private insurance companies be prohibited from transacting certain classes of indemnity business; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 259) of Martin Hays for the incorporation of the Massachusetts State Automobile Insurance Company for the purpose of issuing motor vehicle personal injury, property damage, fire and theft insurance in competition with private insurance companies; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 466) of Charles T. Cavanagh for the abolition of the districts or zones in connection with compulsory insurance for owners of motor vehicles; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 867) of John J. Murphy and William P. Corbett for the establishment of a state fund to insure owners of motor vehicles for civil liability for personal injuries or death; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 868) of Lawrence F. Quigley for the establishment of a state fund for providing compensation for injuries and deaths resulting from accidents of motor vehicles; petition (with accompanying bill, House, No. 990) of Edgar F. Power that persons responsible for accidents by motor vehicles be compelled to pay the compensation to persons injured thereby, report the accompanying Resolve (Senate, No. 301).

For the committee,

C. WESLEY HALE.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

Resolve providing for an Investigation by a Special Commission relative to Compulsory Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance and Related Matters.

1 *Resolved*, That an unpaid special commission,
2 consisting of one member of the senate to be
3 designated by the president thereof, three mem-
4 bers of the house of representatives to be desig-
5 nated by the speaker thereof, and three persons
6 to be appointed by the governor, shall investi-
7 gate the recommendations of his excellency the
8 governor relating to compulsory automobile lia-
9 bility insurance as set forth in his inaugural
10 address to the two branches of the general court;
11 the plans recommended by the judicial council
12 in their fourth report for disposing of motor
13 vehicle court cases more promptly and with
14 less expense; and also the subject matter of
15 the current senate documents numbered twenty-
16 six, one hundred and thirty-one, one hundred
17 and seventy-three, and current house documents
18 numbered ninety-four, ninety-five, ninety-six,
19 one hundred and ninety-three, two hundred and
20 twenty-five, two hundred and fifty-eight, two
21 hundred and fifty-nine, four hundred and sixty-
22 six, eight hundred and sixty-seven, eight hundred

23 and sixty-eight, and nine hundred and ninety,
24 with a view to recommending whether the present
25 system of compulsory motor vehicle liability
26 insurance shall be continued or whether the same
27 shall be modified in respect to any of the particu-
28 lars set forth in said recommendations, plans
29 and documents, or otherwise, or whether the
30 same shall be superseded by other systems and
31 arrangements therein suggested or otherwise,
32 designed to carry out the purposes of said present
33 system and at the same time to relieve and reduce
34 the burden of expense on owners of motor vehicles,
35 to provide for a more equitable distribution,
36 geographically and otherwise, of such burden; to
37 reduce the number of accidents and to eliminate
38 or minimize such objections and defects in the
39 said present system as may be found to exist.
40 Said commission shall hold hearings, may call
41 upon the registrar of motor vehicles, the division
42 of insurance and such other departments, com-
43 missions and officers of the commonwealth who
44 have information in relation to the aforesaid
45 matters for such assistance as may be helpful
46 in the course of its investigation, may require
47 by summons the attendance and testimony of
48 witnesses and the production of books and papers
49 relating to any matter under investigation, and
50 may administer oaths to witnesses testifying
51 before it. Said commission shall be provided
52 with quarters in the state house or elsewhere,
53 and may expend, after an appropriation has been
54 made, for expert, clerical and other services and

55 expenses, such sums, not exceeding in the ag-
56 gregate dollars, as it may deem
57 necessary. The commission shall report to the
58 general court the results of its investigations
59 and its recommendations, if any, together with
60 drafts of legislation necessary to carry its recom-
61 mendations into effect, by filing the same with
62 the clerk of the senate not later than the first
63 Wednesday in December in the current year.

