

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, BOSTON, June 9, 1931.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

In view of the action of the Senate in defeating certain legislation proposed for the regulation of ownership in the railroads of Massachusetts and requiring a registration of stock transfers in the Boston and Maine and the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroads, I deem it imperative that a recess committee consisting of not more than three members, to be appointed from the House and Senate, be appointed with authority to summons witnesses and to take evidence for the purpose of further determining the status of the ownership of the New England Railroads, so-called.

After exhaustive examination of the situation, the Governors' Committee of the New England Council has made certain recommendations for the consideration of the New England Governors. By these recommendations it is deemed wise that the Boston and Maine Railroad and the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad should be combined into a single system, provided the stock ownership of the Pennsylvania Railroad and affiliated interests is limited to not more than ten per cent of the voting stock of each of the named companies.

I believe that this report represents the sentiment of Massachusetts people and that it is my duty and yours to keep this situation in hand pending the adjournment of the legislative branch of the government. For these reasons I strongly urge upon you the appointment of such a commission as this message suggests.

JOSEPH B. ELY.

