

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, BOSTON, June 3, 1932.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

I am returning herewith without my approval House Bill 1173 entitled, "An Act authorizing the Reinstatement of Morris A. Skold as a Member of the Fire Department of the City of Cambridge."

Morris A. Skold, a former member of the Fire Department of the City of Cambridge, was suspended therefrom on November 9, 1925. He has been given all the protection afforded by the laws of this Commonwealth. His petition for reinstatement, denied by the Civil Service Commission, was appealed to the courts of this Commonwealth and denied. For the Legislature to pass or the Governor to approve, even permissive legislation upon such a matter, is a plain departure from the sound fundamental doctrine of Civil Service. To seek such a departure nearly seven years after suspension occurs, when the facts and their impress upon the public mind have been dimmed by time, makes it impossible, even if such action were in any event warranted, to pass justly upon the facts. A new generation of applicants for positions in that particular service, whose records are clear, are also wronged by this law.

For these reasons, it is returned without my approval.

JOSEPH B. ELY.

