

HOUSE No. 784

By Mr. Donahue of Haverhill, petition of the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor for appointment of a special commission (including members of the General Court) to investigate relative to discrimination in industry against middle-aged and elderly persons. Rules (Joint).

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Four.

A Resolve relative to the Discrimination against Middle-Aged and Elderly Men and Women in Industry.

1 *Whereas*, An economic depression of several years'
2 standing has affected Massachusetts like other states
3 of the union, bringing with it unemployment and
4 privations to our people to an unprecedented degree;
5 and

6 *Whereas*, These conditions have been accentuated
7 by the failure of middle-aged and elderly men and
8 women to find a place in industry where their services
9 may be hired; and

10 *Whereas*, The sentiment of the people is strongly in
11 favor of strengthening the structure of society so
12 that men and women, regardless of age, may have
13 equal opportunity of employment, and

14 *Whereas*, The legislature should accomplish every-
15 thing possible for the permanent solution of this vital
16 economic problem in the civic life of the state and its
17 people, therefore be it

18 *Resolved*, That a joint legislative committee be
19 created to consist of three members of the house, to
20 be appointed by the speaker; three members of the
21 senate, to be appointed by the president; three mem-
22 bers to be appointed by the governor, for the purpose
23 of investigating the problem of the middle-aged and
24 elderly men and women; that such committee shall
25 have power to subpoena and compel the attendance
26 of witnesses, including the production of any books,
27 papers, records or documents pertaining to the subject
28 of the investigation; that it shall have authority to
29 employ counsel, a secretary, stenographers and all
30 necessary expert or other assistants, and that the com-
31 mittee may incur within the amounts made available
32 for its actual and necessary expenses in the perform-
33 ance of its duties, including the personal expenses of
34 its members and compensation and expenses for as-
35 sistants and persons employed or selected by it pur-
36 suant to this resolution; and be it further

37 *Resolved*, That such committee shall report to the
38 legislature on or before the fifteenth day of February,
39 nineteen hundred and thirty-four.