

SENATE No. 579

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SENATE, June 4, 1919.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was committed the House Resolve to provide for an investigation by a special commission relative to additional assistance for blind persons (House, No. 1610), report recommending that the same ought to pass in a new draft herewith submitted (Senate, No. 579).

For the committee,

CHARLES L. GIFFORD.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nineteen.

RESOLVE

To provide for Temporary Relief of the Needy Blind and for an Investigation by a Special Commission relative to Additional Assistance for Blind Persons.

1 *Resolved*, That the Massachusetts commission for the
2 blind is hereby authorized to expend during the current
3 fiscal year a sum not exceeding ten thousand dollars
4 for the relief of the needy blind people who are at the
5 date of passage of this resolve legal residents of the
6 Commonwealth; and be it further

7 *Resolved*, that the commissioner for the blind, the sec-
8 retary of the state board of charity and the supervisor
9 of administration are hereby constituted a special com-
10 mission to investigate and consider all matters relative
11 to the registration, care and relief of blind persons in
12 the commonwealth and such other matters relative to
13 said persons as the commission may deem pertinent to
14 this inquiry, including the following questions:— The
15 approximate number of blind persons now residing in the
16 commonwealth and their age, sex, nationality, citizenship,
17 place of residence, occupation and dependency; the ad-
18 visability of establishing any new methods, by law or
19 otherwise, for maintaining a complete and accurate
20 registration of said persons; the need of new methods

21 of financial and other relief through education, employ-
22 ment, institutional care or treatment, financial assistance
23 or otherwise, and whether such relief should be borne by
24 the commonwealth or by the cities and towns.

25 The commission is especially directed to consider
26 the subject matter of house bills numbered seven hun-
27 dred and five and eleven hundred and forty-three of the
28 year nineteen hundred and nineteen, and to report upon
29 the advisability of the legislation proposed therein and
30 the estimated expense that would be entailed thereby.

31 All other boards and officials of the commonwealth
32 and of the cities and towns are hereby directed to co-
33 operate with the said special commission and to assist
34 it in procuring such information as it may require. The
35 commission shall report its findings to the general court
36 not later than the tenth day of January, nineteen hun-
37 dred and twenty, with such recommendations for legis-
38 lation as it may deem appropriate, and may expend for
39 the investigation such sums as may hereafter be appro-
40 priated therefor.

