

SENATE No. 12

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION OF ITS INVESTIGATION OF THE TAKING OVER BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS.

OCTOBER 15, 1923.

To the General Court of Massachusetts:

During the 1923 session of the legislature two petitions were filed providing for the taking over of the county tuberculosis hospitals by the state, one being Senate No. 25, and the other House No. 376. There were also before the legislature House No. 1102, being the report of the Department of Public Health on non-pulmonary tuberculosis, and House No. 1200, being the report of the Department of Public Health on the entire tuberculosis situation in the state, including in each case recommendations for legislation. These reports were made after an exhaustive investigation, by direction of the legislature, in an order passed shortly before the end of the 1922 session and after a number of special bills relating to tuberculosis had been considered.

The petitions and reports were referred to the Com-

mittee on State Administration. The committee was able to give but brief consideration during the session to the various matters to which the petitions and reports related, and felt unable to act without further study and consideration.

On May 11 the following legislative order was adopted, relative to tuberculosis hospitals:

Ordered, That the joint committee on State Administration be directed and empowered to sit during the recess of the General Court for the purpose of continuing its investigation of the subject matter of Senate document number twenty-five and House Documents numbers three hundred and seventy-six, eleven hundred and two, and twelve hundred, relative to the taking over by the Commonwealth of the county tuberculosis hospitals. The committee may expend for necessary travel such sums as may be approved by the Governor and Council. The Commission on Administration and Finance is authorized and directed to furnish such information and assistance as the committee requires. The committee shall report its recommendations to the General Court not later than the fifteenth day of October of the current year, by filing the same either with the Clerk of the Senate or with the Clerk of the House.

The committee is unable to submit a complete report at this time. A complete report, embodying all recommendations, will be filed on or before November 1. Pending the filing of such report, the following recommendations are submitted;

It is recommended that the department of public health be given legislative authority to receive cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis for treatment at the Lakeville Sanatorium, involving an estimated expenditure of approximately \$50,000.

It is recommended that the legislature provide an appropriation to enable the department of public health to carry out plans for the extension of clinics

for the examination of school children, in connection with the work of discovering and preventing tuberculosis, involving an estimated expenditure of approximately \$50,000.

Respectfully submitted,

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