

HOUSE No. 3226

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 1, 1962.

The House committee on Rules, to whom were referred the resolutions (filed by Mr. Thompson of Ludlow) requesting the newspapers of the Commonwealth and His Excellency, Governor John A. Volpe, to take immediate action to eliminate the dissemination of gambling information and data indispensable to the continued existence of illegal organized gambling in the Commonwealth (House, No. 3226), report that the same ought to be adopted.

For the committee,

WILLIAM H. FINNEGAN.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Two.

RESOLUTIONS REQUESTING THE NEWSPAPERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH AND HIS EXCELLENCY, GOVERNOR JOHN A. VOLPE, TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO ELIMINATE THE DISSEMINATION OF GAMBLING INFORMATION AND DATA INDISPENSABLE TO THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF ILLEGAL ORGANIZED GAMBLING IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

Whereas, The existence and extent of organized gambling in the Commonwealth is a problem of enormous concern to the people of Massachusetts; and

Whereas, It is generally recognized that wherever organized crime, vice and corruption exist on a large scale throughout the nation, the ill-gotten gains of illegal gambling activities constitute the very foundation on which vast underworld power rests; and

Whereas, His Excellency Governor Volpe has today indicated his intense interest in the problem of destroying whatever illegal organized gambling exists in the Commonwealth by personally appearing before a joint convention of the General Court today to present his recommendations for a Commission on Crime and Public Morality; and

Whereas, Law enforcement officials and competent studies of the problem of eliminating organized gambling, including the Massachusetts Crime Commission in its final report in 1957, have clearly demonstrated that organized gambling on a large scale could not exist without the widespread dissemination of gambling information and data; and,

Whereas, The newspapers of the Commonwealth which publish racing entries and results, pari-mutuel figures, and United States Treasury balances, are supplying the indispensable tools without which organized gambling on any large scale could not continue to flourish; and

Whereas, The complete elimination of such information and data would strike a mortal blow at whatever organized gambling may exist in the Commonwealth; therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of Massachusetts urgently requests that the newspapers of Massachusetts voluntarily, without the necessity of further legislative action, cease and desist from the further publication of all racing entries and results, parimutuel figures, and United States Treasury balances which constitute the indispensable tools of illegal organized gambling wherever it has been found to exist in the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That the House of Representatives urgently and respectfully requests that His Excellency Governor John A. Volpe call a meeting of all newspaper publishers in the Commonwealth whose papers have been disseminating such gambling information and data, and vigorously urge them to discontinue such practices which immeasurably contribute to the success of illegal organized gambling and are clearly not in the public interest; and be it further

Resolved, That the House of Representatives respectfully requests that all citizens and all civic, religious, fraternal, and social groups and organizations in the Commonwealth who are genuinely interested in taking immediate constructive action to eliminate illegal organized gambling join with the House of Representatives in making their views known to His Excellency the Governor and to the newspapers of the Commonwealth to the end that the public interest may be permitted to prevail over private gain.

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Adopted.

WILLIAM C. MAIERS,
Clerk.

