

By Mr. Sears of Boston, petition of John W. Sears for an investigation by a special non-legislative commission relative to the extent of consumer abuses in the foreign and domestic motor vehicle repair industry. Commerce and Labor.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

RESOLVE CREATING AN UNPAID SPECIAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE AND STUDY THE EXISTANCE AND EXTENT OF CONSUMER ABUSES IN THE FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC AUTOMOBILE REPAIR INDUSTRY IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

1 *Resolved*, That an unpaid special commission to consist of
2 seven members appointed by the Governor is hereby established
3 to investigate and study as a basis for legislative action
4 the existence and extent of consumer abuses in the domestic
5 and foreign automobile repair industry in the commonwealth.

6 The commission shall hold public hearings at least once
7 during each of the months of January, April, July and October,
8 and shall give reasonable notice of the time and place of
9 such hearings. In addition, the public shall be invited to sub-
10 mit in writing complaints of alleged abuses by members of
11 the said automobile repair industry.

12 The commission may require by summons the attendance
13 and testimony under oath of witnesses and the production be-
14 fore it of books and papers relating to any matter being in-
15 vestigated by it pursuant to the provisions of this resolve. Such
16 a summons may be issued by the commission only upon a vote
17 of the commission and shall be served in the same manner as
18 summonses for witnesses in criminal cases issued on behalf of
19 the commonwealth and all provisions of law relative to sum-
20 monses issued in such cases shall apply to summonses issued
21 under the resolve so far as applicable. Any justice of the su-
22 preme judicial court or of the superior court may upon ap-
23 plication by the commission compel the attendance of wit-
24 nesses summoned as aforesaid and the giving of testimony
25 under oath before the commission in furtherance of any in-

26 vestigation under this resolve in the same manner and to the
27 same extent as before said courts.

28 The commission shall report to the general court annually
29 on or before the first Wednesday in each year the results of
30 its investigations and study and its recommendations, if any,
31 together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry such
32 recommendations into effect by filing the same with the clerk
33 of the senate and shall file a final report not later than the
34 last Wednesday in June, nineteen hundred and seventy. The
35 commission shall also file a copy of each such report with the
36 governor.

37 The commission shall consider, but in no way be limited
38 to, the question whether the commonwealth shall license and
39 regulate the automobile repair industry.