
By Mr. Locke, a petition of David H. Locke and Thomas E. Powers that provision be made for an investigation and study by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to reducing the work load of the General Court by means of changes in the procedure for filing petitions and by increasing the authority of the agencies and departments of the Commonwealth in certain areas. Rules (Joint).

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy.

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION AND STUDY BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO REDUCING THE WORK LOAD OF THE GENERAL COURT BY MEANS OF CHANGES IN THE PROCEDURE FOR FILING PETITIONS AND BY INCREASING THE AUTHORITY OF THE AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH IN CERTAIN AREAS.

1 *Resolved*, That there is hereby established a special com-
2 mission, consisting of three members of the senate, to be ap-
3 pointed by the president thereof; four members of the house
4 of representatives, to be appointed by the speaker thereof;
5 three members to be appointed by the governor; two mem-
6 bers to be appointed by the secretary of the commonwealth;
7 and two members to be appointed by the commissioner of
8 the department of public works, to make an investigation and
9 study relative to reducing the work load of the general court.
10 Said commission shall in the course of its investigation and
11 study consider, but not be limited to, the question of intro-
12 ducing a fee for filing petitions for legislation, the waiver of
13 such fee in the case of extreme hardship, and establishing
14 procedures so that departments and agencies of the common-
15 wealth might deal directly with matters that are administra-
16 tive in character and of such a nature that they need not be
17 decided by a statutory proclamation of the general court. Said
18 commission may expend for expert, legal, clerical and other
19 assistance such funds as may be appropriated therefor. Said
20 commission shall report to the general court the results of its
21 investigation and study and recommendations, if any, together

