
[Senate, January 12, 1970 — Offered by Senator Maurice A. Donahue.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SENATE, January 12, 1970.

1 *Ordered*, That a special committee to consist of three mem-
2 bers of the Senate, of whom at least one shall be of the minor-
3 ity party, to be designated by the President, be established to
4 make an investigation and study of current state policy and
5 possible legislative action to provide for the following: 1)
6 The maintenance of aerospace technology within this Com-
7 monwealth including those research activities sponsored
8 by the National Aeronautics and Space Administrations Elec-
9 tronic Research Center in Cambridge, the extent of the im-
10 pact of those research activities on the levels of technological
11 research at nonprofit educational institutions and private
12 businesses carrying out such direct and contract research act-
13 ivity, the extent of private spin-off development from such
14 public expenditures, the current national levels of aerospace
15 programing, and the impact of this region of such plans for
16 the future with a view to developing more systematic co-
17 ordination of interdependent federal-state-municipal spending
18 within the Commonwealth; and 2) The transfer of aerospace
19 technology to other areas of social and human activity, such
20 as civilian air traffic control, urban transportation, environ-
21 mental control and medical technology; 3) The adequacy of
22 the resources of the Massachusetts Science and Technology
23 Foundation which was established by the Legislature in 1969
24 for the purpose of developing better federal and state rela-
25 tionships in order to maintain and increase investment levels
26 in research activities which may be particularly vital and ap-
27 propriate to the growth of the Massachusetts economy; and
28 4) Evaluate the methods by which the functions of technology
29 transfer performed by the U.S. Department of Commerce's

30 Office of State Technical Services, discontinued in December
31 1969 by the federal government, may best be continued
32 through state action.

33 The Committee shall also investigate and study certain as-
34 pects of the scheduled closing of the National Aeronautics and
35 Space Administration's Electronic Research Center in Cam-
36 bridge, directing particular attention to three areas, directly re-
37 lated to the closing order, which bear directly on future rela-
38 tions between the Commonwealth, its subdivisions, and the fed-
39 eral government: 1) The apparent lack of prior communica-
40 tions between the federal government and appropriate officials
41 of the Commonwealth and of the affected municipality; 2) The
42 recourse, if any, which the Commonwealth or an affected
43 municipality; 2) The recourse, if any, which the Common-
44 wealth or an affected municipality may have in this or future
45 decisions which directly affect the economy of the Common-
46 wealth and of the municipalities within the Commonwealth;
47 and 3) Alternative measures which the Commonwealth may
48 implement in order to alleviate economic dislocation and hard-
49 ship which may result from the scheduled closing of NASA's
50 Cambridge center or the abandonment of other federal in-
51 stallations or facilities in Massachusetts.

52 Said committees may travel within the Commonwealth, may
53 hold public hearings and take testimony, and may employ
54 such legal and other expert assistance as it may deem neces-
55 sary. Said committee may expend such sums to carry out the
56 provisions of this order as may be appropriated therefor.
57 Said committee shall report the results of its investigation
58 and study by filing the same with the Clerk of the Senate not
59 later than the last Wednesday of May in the current year.