

HOUSE No. 4343

By Mr. Lussier of Pittsfield, petition of Thomas R. Lussier and Christopher J. Hodgkins for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the workmen's compensation system in the Commonwealth. Commerce and Labor.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Three.

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION AND STUDY BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION SYSTEM IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

1 *Resolved*, That a special Commission to consist of seven
2 members of the Senate, one of whom shall be the Senate Chairman
3 of the Committee on Commerce and Labor, to be appointed by the
4 Senate President, ten members of the House of Representatives,
5 one of whom shall be the House Chairman of the Committee on
6 Commerce and Labor, to be appointed by the Speaker of the
7 House, the Chairman of the Industrial Accident Board, the Com-
8 missioner of Insurance, the Commissioner of Rehabilitation or his
9 designee, the Attorney General of the Commonwealth or his desig-
10 nee, and twelve members to be appointed by the Governor, two of
11 whom shall be representatives of employers to be recommended by
12 the Associated Industries of Massachusetts, one of whom shall be a
13 representative of the insurance industry to be recommended by the
14 Alliance of American Insurers, one of whom shall be a representa-
15 tive of the insurance industry to be recommended by the American
16 Insurance Association, three of whom shall be members of organ-
17 ized labor, one of whom shall be a representative of public em-
18 ployees), all three to be recommended by the Massachusetts State
19 Labor Council, AFL-CIO, one of whom shall be an attorney
20 recommended by the Massachusetts Bar Association, one of whom
21 shall be an attorney recommended by the Boston Bar Association,

22 one of whom shall be a representative of municipalities, to be
23 recommended by the Massachusetts Municipal Associations, one
24 of whom shall be a representative of disabled workers to be re-
25 commended by the Massachusetts Organization of Disabled
26 Workers and one of whom shall be a representative of disabled
27 workers to be recommended by the Western Massachusetts Organ-
28 ization of Disabled Workers, is hereby established for the purpose
29 of making an investigation and study of the workers' compensation
30 system in the Commonwealth. Said investigation and study shall
31 consider the purpose of the workers' compensation act and ques-
32 tions of equity, efficiency and expense, the administration of the
33 act, the benefits system and such other related issues as it may deem
34 appropriate.

35 The Commission may exercise the information gathering au-
36 thority granted to the Division of Industrial Accidents in Section
37 63 of Chapter 152 of the General Laws. Furthermore, the Division
38 of Industrial Accidents shall provide such statistical information,
39 both processed and unprocessed, as may be required by the
40 Commission.

41 The Commission shall be provided with quarters in the State-
42 house or elsewhere and shall hold public hearings as it deems
43 appropriate, provided however that at least three regional hearings
44 be held in locations other than the City of Boston. The Commis-
45 sion may employ staff, consultants and other services and may
46 travel within and without the Commonwealth, subject to appropri-
47 ation.

48 The Commission shall from time to time report to the General
49 Court the results of its study, and its recommendations, if any,
50 together with drafts of legislation, provided however that a final
51 report shall be filed with Clerk of the Senate and the Clerk of
52 House not later than the thirtieth of June, nineteen hundred and
53 eighty-four.