

activities maintained at public expense whether by state or local appropriation, and they shall particularly report upon the proportion of local and state support in comparison with the ability of towns and cities to maintain schools. They shall also investigate and report the methods adopted by other states for the support of public education.

Appointment of special commission to investigate educational systems of commonwealth.

They shall investigate various items of school expense, as, for example, compensation of teachers, repairs, text books, and supplies, and shall show so far as possible the reasons for variations in per capita expense of such items. They shall make inquiry and report on the extent to which other than school authorities, state and local, have power or responsibility within the public schools, and for this purpose they shall examine city charters that give to other than school committees any jurisdiction over school property or school procedure. They shall report on the advisability of a complete separation of educational from other administration, municipal and state.

The commission shall report its findings and recommendations as to the best methods and plans for the proper coordination of public education within the commonwealth.

The commission hereby provided for shall be furnished with a room in the state house and shall have the services of a clerk. The commission shall give such public hearings and in such places as it may deem expedient and may be allowed such sums for expenses necessarily incurred and shall receive such compensation as shall be approved by the governor and council. The commission shall report to the next general court, not later than the second Wednesday in January, with drafts of such legislation as it may deem expedient.

*Approved June 1, 1918.*

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RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR A RECESS COMMISSION TO CONSIDER THE SHEEP INDUSTRY AND RELATED MATTERS.

*Chap. 89*

*Resolved,* That a recess commission consisting of three members of the senate, six members of the house of representatives and one person to be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the council, shall sit during the recess and consider the matter of the sheep industry in this commonwealth, and especially the message of his excellency the governor relating thereto, and shall devise methods for stimulating the production of sheep and the promotion of related interests, including agriculture; and

Appointment of recess commission to consider the sheep industry, etc.

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shall study into and recommend changes in the laws affecting the organization, powers and duties of the state department of agriculture and other agricultural laws and agricultural organizations. The commission may give public hearings in different parts of the state, may employ a secretary and stenographer and may incur such expenses for the aforesaid purposes, and shall receive such compensation as the governor and council shall approve. The commission shall report to the next general court not later than the second Wednesday in January with such recommendations for legislation, if any, as it may deem expedient. *Approved June 3, 1918.*

*Chap. 90* RESOLVE TO PROVIDE FOR THE DRAFTING OF LEGISLATION  
RELATIVE TO ABSENT VOTING.

Drafting a bill to provide for a system of absent voting, etc.

*Resolved,* That the attorney-general and the secretary of the commonwealth be and are hereby authorized and requested to draft a bill to provide for a system of absent voting by all persons absent on the day of election from the city or town where they reside, and to report to the next general court on or before the closing day for the presentation of new business. *Approved June 3, 1918.*