

revenues, if any, now properly available for such repayment. The commission shall especially consider and recommend a general policy in respect to the said matters, and whether there should be a period of time fixed by statute within which all claims for the repayment of taxes should be made, either by the bringing of a suit, or by filing the claim with the department of the tax commissioner, or by making it the subject of a petition to the general court, and whether or not a general act should be passed authorizing repayment in certain cases without the necessity of special legislation.

To recommend a general policy, etc.

Time of making report.

The commission shall report its findings and recommendations in full to the next general court, on or before the tenth day of January, with drafts of any legislation which the commission may deem expedient. The members of the commission may authorize their respective deputy officers to sit at any hearing in place of themselves, and the commission may, through the office of the tax commissioner, expend such sum, not exceeding five hundred dollars, as the general court may appropriate for the purpose.

Deputy officers may sit at hearings, etc.

*Approved June 24, 1919.*

*Chap. 48* RESOLVE TO PROVIDE FOR TEMPORARY RELIEF OF THE NEEDY BLIND AND FOR AN INVESTIGATION BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR BLIND PERSONS.

Relief of blind and needy persons.

*Resolved,* That the commission for the blind may expend during the current fiscal year, to the extent that an appropriation is made therefor by the general court, a sum not exceeding ten thousand dollars for the relief of blind and needy persons who are, at the date of passage of this resolve, legal residents of the commonwealth, and be it further

Investigation as to additional assistance for blind persons.

*Resolved,* That the director of the said commission, the secretary of the state board of charity and the supervisor of administration are hereby constituted a special commission to investigate and consider all matters relative to the registration, care and relief of blind persons in the commonwealth and such other matters relative to said persons as the said special commission may deem pertinent to this inquiry, including the following questions:— The approximate number of blind persons now residing in the commonwealth and their age, nationality, citizenship, place of residence, occupation and dependency; the advisability of establishing, by law or otherwise, any new methods for

maintaining a complete and accurate registration of said persons; the need of new methods of financial and other relief through education, employment, institutional care or treatment, financial assistance or otherwise, and whether such relief should be borne by the commonwealth or by the cities and towns.

The commission is especially directed to consider the subject-matter of house bills numbered seven hundred and five and eleven hundred and forty-three of the current year, and to report upon the advisability of the legislation proposed therein and the estimated expense that would be entailed thereby.

Subject-matter of certain house bills to be considered.

All other boards and officials of the commonwealth and of the cities and towns are hereby directed to co-operate with the said special commission and to assist it in procuring such information as it may require. The commission shall report its findings to the next general court not later than the tenth day of January, with such recommendations for legislation as it may deem appropriate, and may expend for the investigation such sums as may hereafter be appropriated therefor.

Co-operation of certain officials.

Report.

*Approved June 24, 1919.*

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE METROPOLITAN WATER AND SEWERAGE BOARD RELATIVE TO WATER SUPPLY NEEDS AND RESOURCES AND TO THE USE OF GREAT PONDS.

*Chap. 49*

*Resolved,* That the state department of health and the metropolitan water and sewerage board, acting jointly, shall forthwith proceed to investigate the water supply needs of the inhabitants of the commonwealth, including all questions relating to the quantity of water to be obtained from available sources, its quality, the best methods of protecting the purity of the water, the construction, operation and maintenance of works for storing, conveying and purifying the water, the cost of the same, the damages to property, and all matters pertaining to the subject. The said board shall also consider and report whether any of the great ponds now used as sources of water supply might better be devoted to purposes of public recreation, and shall determine the extent to which boating, fishing or other use of any such sources may properly be authorized. The said board shall have power to employ such engineering and other assistance and to incur such expenses as may be necessary for carrying out

Investigation as to water supply needs and resources and to the use of great ponds.