

ten hundred and twenty-five under authority of said chapter, and the amounts which it would have received as aforesaid at said times but for errors in the claims for reimbursement filed with said department.

*Approved April 24, 1925.*

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCESS BY THE PUBLIC TO BEACHES AND OTHER POINTS ON THE SEASHORE.

*Chap. 26*

*Resolved,* That an unpaid commission, consisting of the commissioner of public works, the commissioner of public safety and the commissioner of conservation, be established for the purpose of studying and investigating the existing opportunities for access by the public to the beaches and other points on the seashore and of considering whether further opportunities as aforesaid should be provided by the establishment of new reservations or the enlargement of existing reservations. If, in the opinion of the commission, existing reservations should be enlarged or new reservations acquired, it shall consider what part, if any, the commonwealth should take, and what part should be taken by cities, towns and counties or by districts now existing or to be created for the purpose, in the acquisition, improvement and maintenance of such reservations and in meeting the expenditures incidental thereto. The commission, for the purposes aforesaid, may expend out of such amount, not exceeding five hundred dollars, as the general court shall appropriate, such sums as the governor and council approve, and shall report its estimates and recommendations, with drafts of legislation, if any, embodying such recommendations, to the general court by filing the same with the clerk of the senate not later than December fifteenth of the current year, and shall at the same time file copies of such report with the governor and the budget commissioner.

Special commission to investigate as to opportunities for access by public to beaches and other points on seashore.

Expenditures.

Report to general court, etc.

*Approved April 24, 1925.*

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR INVESTIGATION BY THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF WAYS AND MEANS FOR EXPEDITING THE TRIAL OF CASES AND RELIEVING CONGESTION IN THE DOCKETS OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

*Chap. 27*

*Resolved,* That the judicial council is hereby requested to investigate ways and means for expediting the trial of cases and relieving congestion in the dockets of the superior court, and, among other things, the advisability of increasing or of wholly removing the ad damnum limits of district court jurisdiction in civil cases; measures for discouraging frivolous appeals; measures for requiring the parties to frame issues in advance of trial by greater specification in the declaration of what the plaintiff in good faith claims and greater specification in the answer of what the defendant admits or in good faith denies, with suitable penalties for frivolous or unfounded allegations and denials; ways and means for encouraging, so far as consistent with constitutional rights, trials without jury,

Investigation by judicial council of ways and means for expediting trial of cases and relieving congestion in dockets of superior court.

including specifically an inquiry into the operation of the laws of Connecticut and Maryland relative to the waiver of jury trials in criminal cases; and any other ways and means that may appear feasible to said council for improving and modernizing court procedure and practice so that, consistently with the ends of justice, the proverbial delays of the law and attendant expense, both to litigants and the general public, may be minimized.

*Approved April 24, 1925.*

*Chap. 28* RESOLVE TO EXTEND THE TIME WITHIN WHICH THE JOINT BOARD APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE THE SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY AVAILABLE TO THE CITY OF LAWRENCE AND THE TOWN OF METHUEN SHALL FILE ITS FINAL REPORT AND TO INCLUDE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF SUCH INVESTIGATION SUCH SOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE CITY OF LOWELL.

Extension of time for report of investigation as to water supply for Lawrence and Methuen.

City of Lowell may join in said investigation, etc.

Mayor of Lowell to appoint commission to participate in investigation, etc.

Additional powers and duties of joint board.

Apportionment of expenses, etc.

Unexpended balance, etc., made available, etc.

*Resolved*, That the time within which the joint board established by chapter sixty-one of the resolves of nineteen hundred and twenty-four, whether or not enlarged as hereinafter provided, shall file its final report is hereby extended to the third Wednesday of January, nineteen hundred and twenty-six.

The city of Lowell, acting through its city council, may elect to join in said investigation, whereupon the scope thereof shall be extended as hereinafter provided, by filing a written statement of such election with said joint board on or before July fifth, nineteen hundred and twenty-five. Within ten days after the filing of such election, the mayor of the city of Lowell shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the city council of said city, a commission of three to participate in such investigation, and upon their confirmation as aforesaid the members of said commission shall become members of said joint board which shall, in addition to the powers and duties conferred and imposed upon it by the aforesaid resolve, investigate also all sources of water supply reasonably available to the inhabitants of said city of Lowell, in all the aspects set forth in said resolve. If said city of Lowell elects to participate in said investigation, the expenses thereafter incurred of said joint board, enlarged as aforesaid, shall be apportioned among the cities of Lowell and Lawrence and the town of Methuen, as determined by said enlarged joint board upon the following basis: one third in proportion to their valuations, and two thirds in proportion to their consumption of water, for the year nineteen hundred and twenty-three. The amounts apportioned as aforesaid shall be assessed, collected and paid over to the state treasurer in the same manner and at the same time as state taxes. Any unexpended balance of the amount originally appropriated for the purpose of conducting the investigation under said resolve is hereby made available and may be expended by said joint board for the further conduct of its investigation, whether or not the city of Lowell elects to join therein, and in case said city so elects, subject to apportionment as aforesaid among said cities and town.

*Approved April 24, 1925.*