
To accompany the petition of Otis M. Whitney that provision be made for an investigation and study by a special commission (including members of the General Court) of the laws relating to firearms and dangerous weapons. Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Four.

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION AND STUDY BY A SPECIAL UNPAID COMMISSION RELATIVE TO THE LAWS PERTAINING TO THE SALE, RENTAL, LEASING, CARRYING AND USE OF FIREARMS AND ALSO THE POSSESSION, CARRYING, AND USE OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS.

1 *Resolved*, That an unpaid special commission, con-
2 sisting of two members of the senate to be designated
3 by the president thereof, three members of the house
4 of representatives to be designated by the speaker
5 thereof, the commissioner of public safety or a person
6 to be appointed by him, and one person designated by
7 the governor engaged in the business of buying and
8 selling of firearms, is hereby established for the purpose
9 of investigating the advisability of revising the laws of
10 the commonwealth relative to the sale, rental, leasing,
11 carrying and use of firearms, and also possession,
12 carrying and use of dangerous weapons with a view to
13 recommending such changes therein as may be neces-
14 sary. In making its investigation and study here-
15 under, said commission shall consider all laws now
16 in existence in this state pertaining to the subject
17 matter, and the so-called Sullivan law of the state of
18 New York. Said commission shall be provided with
19 quarters in the state house or elsewhere, shall hold
20 hearings, shall have the power to summons witnesses
21 and to require the production of books, records and

22 papers, and the giving of testimony under oath, and
 23 may employ technical assistants and expend for clerical
 24 and other services and expenses such sums, not ex-
 25 ceeding in the aggregate, twenty-five hundred dollars,
 26 as may hereafter be appropriated therefor. Said com-
 27 mission shall report to the general court the results of
 28 its investigation and study, and its recommendations,
 29 if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to
 30 carry its recommendations into effect, by filing the
 31 same with the clerk of the house of representatives on
 32 or before the first Wednesday in December in the
 33 current year.