

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 15, 1984.

The committee on Human Services and Elderly Affairs, to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 802) of John A. Brennan, Jr., for legislation relative to furlough or temporary release from incarceration; the petition (accompanied by resolve, Senate, No. 827) of Arthur Joseph Lewis, Jr., that provision be made to revive and continue the special commissions established to make an investigation and study relative to the care and treatment of children and the effect of the prisoner furlough program on the citizens of the Commonwealth; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 834) of Arthur Joseph Lewis, Jr., for legislation to further define prison furlough eligibility; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 837) of David H. Locke, Mary L. Padula, Robert C. Buell and William Constantino, Jr., for legislation to reorganize and modernize state government by creating a department of correction and rehabilitation; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 838) of David H. Locke and John J. McFeeley for legislation to direct the Commissioner of Corrections to prepare a report on the problem of dangerous persons being held in minimum security facilities; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 847) of Denis L. McKenna for legislation to authorize certain inmates to accumulate credits against their sentences for completion of academic vocational educational programs; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 877) of Peter C. Webber for legislation to provide work incentives for criminal offenders; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 687) of Robert Correia for legislation to prohibit participation in the furlough program by persons convicted of murder in the first degree or under the mandatory gun law; the petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 2352) of A. Joseph DeNucci, Paul Kollios, Jack H. Backman and Nicholas J. Costello for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the correctional system of

Commonwealth; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2720) of Allan R. Chiocca for legislation to further define prison furlough eligibility; the petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 4756) of William Constantino, Jr., for an investigation by a special commission including members of the General Court) relative to pre-release and work release programs in the Commonwealth; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4759) of Charles W. Mann for legislation to require work release inmates to pay a portion of their earnings to the Commonwealth for board and room; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4760) of Omer Duval for legislation to make the Commonwealth liable for injuries or damages caused by an inmate on temporary release; the petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 4885) of Roger R. Goyette for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to establishing an offenders conservation corps; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5147) of Doris Bunte that the Commissioner of Correction be authorized to establish a pilot prison industries project for the purpose of providing education, vocational training and work experience for certain inmates; reports recommending that the accompanying resolve (House, No.5807) ought to pass.

For the committee,

A. JOSEPH DENUCCI.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION AND STUDY BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO THE CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

1 *Resolve*, That a Special Commission to consist of three members
2 of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate President and five
3 members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the
4 Speaker of the House, the Commissioner of Correction or his
5 designee, the Chief Administrative Justice of the Trial Court or his
6 designee, a member of the Committee for Public Counsel Services,
7 an attorney from Massachusetts Correctional Legal Services, an
8 attorney to be recommended by the Boston Bar Association, a
9 superintendent of a Massachusetts correctional facility, a county
10 sheriff, a Probation Officer, two Correctional Officers, a Psy-
11 chotherapist from the Division of Legal Medicine, one member of
12 the media, one ex-prisoner, one in-house prisoner, the spouse,
13 parent or child of a state prisoner, and three members to be
14 appointed by the Governor is to be established for the purpose of
15 making an investigation and study of the correctional system of
16 the Commonwealth and said investigation shall consider such
17 issues as overcrowding, mandatory sentencing, new construction,
18 reintegration programs, alternative programs, procedures for
19 sentence deduction, the parole system and such related issues as it
20 may deem appropriate.

21 The Commission shall be provided with quarters in the State
22 House or elsewhere and shall hold public hearings as it deems
23 appropriate. The Commission may employ staff, consultants and
24 other services and may travel within and without the Common-
25 wealth subject to appropriation.

26 The Commission shall from time to time report to the General
27 Court the results of its study and its recommendations, if any,
28 together with drafts of legislation, provided, however, that a final
29 report shall be filed with the Clerk of the Senate and the Clerk of
30 the House no later than the thirtieth of June, nineteen hundred and
31 eighty-five.

