

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Report and Recommendations

of

The Joint Committee of the New Jersey Legislature

reconstituted under Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 1, 1953,

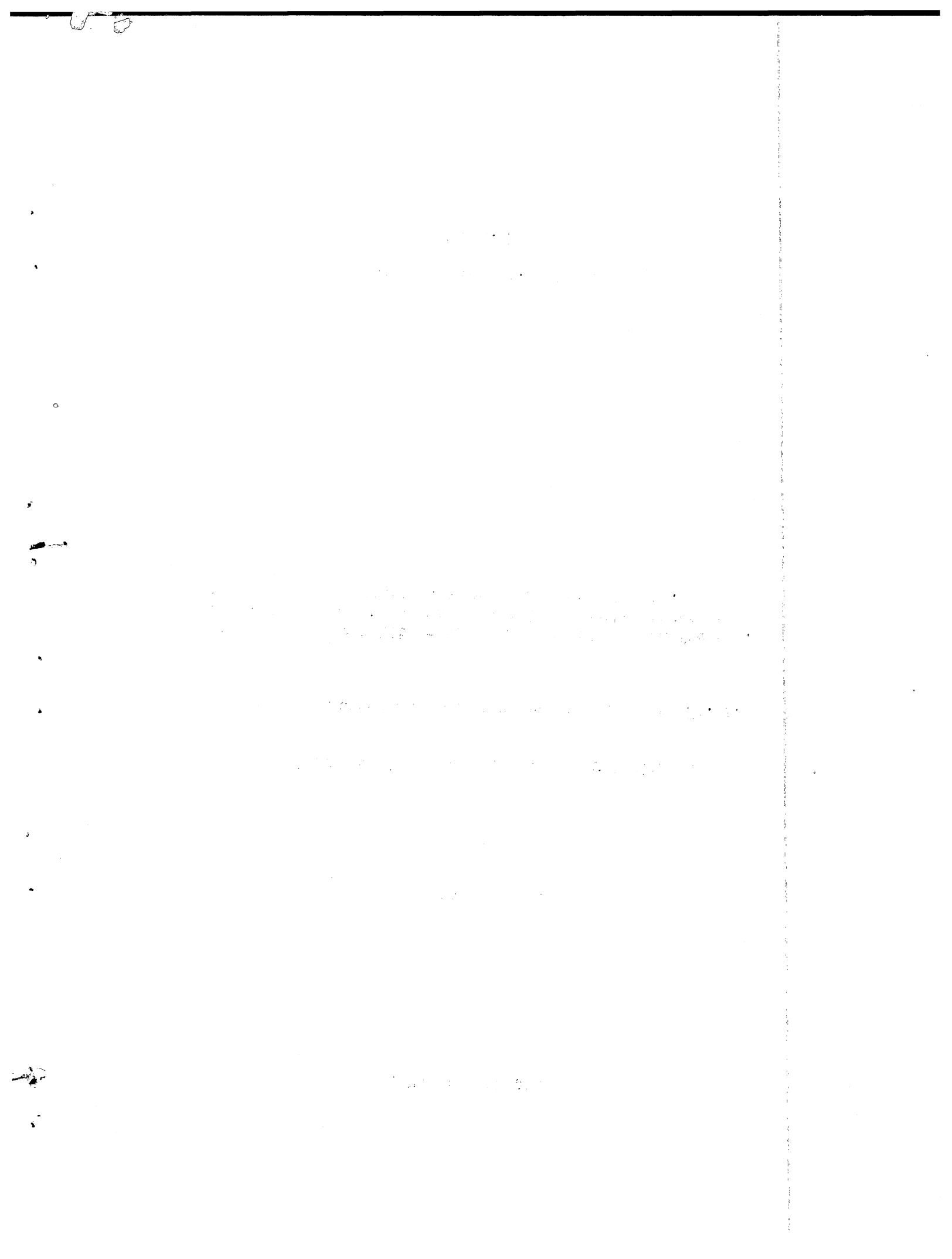
to study the prohibition or regulation of the manufacture,  
sale, distribtuion and use of brush or brushed rayon and  
other items inherently dangerous to users thereof.

Submitted to the Legislature

March, 1953

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1953

New Jersey State Library



ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1, 1953

A Concurrent Resolution reconstituting the Joint Legislative Committee created to study and report to the Legislature upon the subject of prohibiting or regulating the manufacture, sale, distribution and use of brush or brushed rayon and other items in forms inherently dangerous to the users thereof, by Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 8 of the one thousand nine hundred and fifty-two session of the Legislature.

Be It Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey (the Senate concurring):

1. The Joint Legislative Committee created by Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 8 and reconstituted by Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 24 of the one thousand nine hundred and fifty-two session of the Legislature hereby is reconstituted and shall consist of three members of the Senate to be named by the President thereof, and three members of the General Assembly to be named by the Speaker thereof, who shall serve without compensation.

2. The committee shall meet with reasonable expedition after the appointment of the members thereof and shall choose a chairman from its own members.

3. The committee shall continue its investigation of the use of brush or brushed rayon and other material of a highly inflammable nature, in such form as shall be capable of rapid combustion, in the manufacture and sale of clothing or other articles of domestic or common use with a view to prohibiting or regulating the manufacture, sale, distribution and use of such items, and in continuing its investigation the committee shall consult with the Commissioner of Labor and Industry and such representatives of the Department of Labor and Industry as he shall designate, the representatives of the manufacturing industry, and the representatives of the retailing industry, in such products, for the purpose of formulating its conclusions and recommendations and proposing such legislation for enactment by the Legislature as the committee in its discretion shall determine upon.

4. The committee may hold hearings in any part of the State and is empowered by its subpoena to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of evidence, and upon the completion of its study, it shall report, with any proposed legislation recommended for adoption, to the one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three session of the Legislature.

5. The committee is authorized to call upon any State department to provide information, advice and assistance for the purpose of carrying out the purposes of this resolution.

6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.



Members of the Committee

The following were appointed members of the Committee by the  
Honorable David Young, 3rd, President of the Senate:

Honorable Kenneth C. Hand, Senator from Union County  
Honorable Frank W. Shershin, Senator from Passaic County  
Honorable Bernard W. Vogel, Senator from Middlesex County

The following were appointed members of the Committee by the  
Honorable Elvin R. Simmill, Speaker of the General Assembly:

Honorable Florence P. Dwyer, Assemblywoman from Union County, Chairman  
Honorable William O. Barnes, Jr., Assemblyman from Essex County  
Honorable Alfred N. Beadleston, Assemblyman from Monmouth County

The Committee met for the purpose of reorganization and elected  
the Honorable Florence P. Dwyer as its Chairman. Margaret E. Coonan, Head,  
Bureau of Law and Legislative Reference, Division of the State Library was  
designated as the Committee's Secretary

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring the integrity of the financial statements and for providing a clear audit trail. The text also mentions that proper record-keeping is essential for identifying and correcting errors in a timely manner.

2. The second part of the document focuses on the role of internal controls in preventing fraud and misstatements. It highlights that a strong internal control system is necessary to ensure that all transactions are properly authorized, recorded, and reviewed. The text also notes that internal controls should be designed to be effective and efficient, and should be regularly evaluated and updated.

3. The third part of the document discusses the importance of segregation of duties in reducing the risk of fraud. It explains that no single individual should be responsible for all aspects of a transaction, as this could create an opportunity for fraud. The text also mentions that segregation of duties should be implemented in a way that is practical and does not create unnecessary inefficiencies.

4. The fourth part of the document focuses on the importance of regular reconciliations in ensuring the accuracy of the financial records. It explains that reconciling accounts should be done on a regular basis, and any discrepancies should be investigated and resolved promptly. The text also notes that reconciliations should be performed by someone who is independent of the transactions being reconciled.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining proper documentation for all transactions. It explains that all transactions should be supported by appropriate evidence, such as invoices, receipts, and contracts. The text also mentions that documentation should be organized and stored in a way that makes it easy to access and review.

Letter of Transmittal

To the Honorable, the Senate and General Assembly of the State of  
New Jersey:

Pursuant to Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 1, 1953, the Joint Legislative Committee which was reconstituted to study the prohibition or regulation of the manufacture, sale, distribution and use of brush or brushed rayon and other items inherently dangerous to users thereof, respectfully presents this report.

Florence P. Dwyer, Chairman

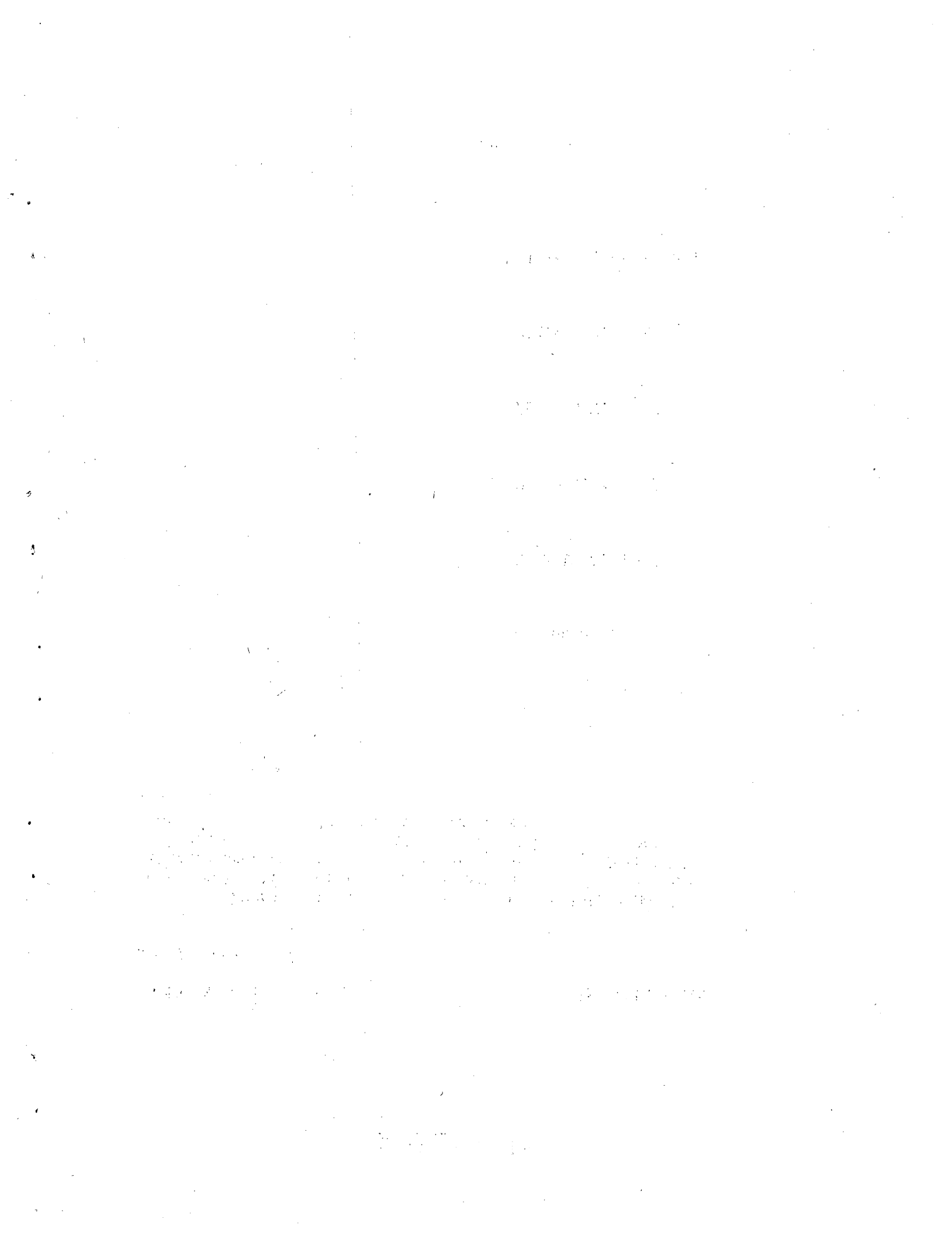
Kenneth C. Hand

Frank W. Shershin

Bernard W. Vogel

William O. Barnes, Jr.

Alfred N. Beadleston



## THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

This Committee is a reconstituted one. It had its origin through A.C.R. 8, 1952, and was reconstituted by A.C.R. 24, 1952, and A.C.R. 1, 1953. The concern of the legislature with the problem of protecting the consuming public from highly flammable fabrics and garments is demonstrated by its adoption of these three resolutions and a check of this Committee's 1952 report will furnish ample evidence to justify this legislative concern.

In the months since our earlier report we have followed your instructions and searched for a proper means of protecting New Jersey citizens. The Committee was satisfied that it had established the damage which results from flammable fabrics and it felt that the collection of further data on torch sweaters, etc., would not serve any useful purpose. Instead it attempted to find out what other states and the federal government had done to deal with an acknowledged danger and, having established this, it considered whether any of the solutions or legislation which were in use elsewhere were suitable for adoption in New Jersey. It is on the basis of such investigation and study that we report to you and make recommendations for your consideration.

In the summer of 1952 the Committee made a complete survey of the approach of 47 other states to the flammable fabrics problem. Every state was contacted and data was supplied by each. Where studies had been made they were consulted and texts of all state laws and proposed legislation in the states were reviewed by the Committee for possible suggestions for New Jersey legislation.

The legislation offered in the State of New York was subject to special scrutiny. It seems highly desirable to this Committee that state legislation on flammable fabrics shall be as uniform as possible and all bills proposed in the New York legislature were studied carefully. A bill (Assembly No. 1126,) introduced

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in 1953 by Assemblyman Graci, has passed both houses of the New York legislature and is ready for the Chief Executive's action. The text of this bill follows very closely the text of the legislation proposed by this Committee for enactment in this state.

The Committee's interest in any action which the federal government had under consideration as a possible solution to the flammable fabrics problem was even more keen than its interest in state action. Constant contact was maintained with sponsors of Congressional measures on this subject. Several such measures were considered but not enacted at the close of the 82nd Congress. The Honorable Gordon Canfield, a Congressional representative from this State, introduced a bill on flammable fabrics in the 83rd Congress (H.R. 3851). Your committee found the provisions of the Canfield bill sound and in the main practical for adoption as a model for New Jersey legislation. The flammable fabrics bill sponsored by this Committee very nearly parallels the features of this proposed federal legislation as well as those of the New York bill mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

Together with its study of state and national legislation the Committee attempted to determine the views of all segments of the industries which would be affected by government action on flammable fabrics and garments. A public hearing was held in Elizabeth, New Jersey, on January 28th, 1953. It was publicized widely and was attended by representatives of the textile and plastic industries groups, retail merchants, safety groups and Chambers of Commerce, as well as by state and local officials who had been asked to sit with the Committee.

The testimony of the industry groups was lengthy and included a detailed discussion of the proposed federal and New York State legislation which the New Jersey Committee was studying. Possible weaknesses in the federal and state bills were considered and the practical effect of the passage of such restrictive legislation was discussed with the representatives in the affected fields.

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Problems of enforcement and administration were raised with a view to making provisions of any New Jersey law realistic ones.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

It is the judgment of this Committee that the facts in its first report to you pointed the need for some sort of preventative legislation to control the sale of flammable fabrics. A year has passed since we reported these facts to you and there is still no national statutory authority to keep dangerously flammable fabrics out of the channels of interstate commerce. The State itself has no effective means of coping with the dangers which this legislature has recognized. We therefore recommend that this body enact a Flammable Fabrics Act for New Jersey.

As this brief report indicates the bill which we propose for enactment reflects not only this Committee's study, but the studies of other states and Congressional committees and incorporates the experience and advice of industry. It has been drafted in cooperation with state, national and industry groups and is in harmony with other proposed textile legislation. It will cause a minimum of inconvenience to the industries which it regulates yet it will act as a preventative measure in the interest of public safety. The Committee feels such a law should be on our statute books as insurance against future flammable fabrics tragedies in this State.

