

Office of the Vermont Secretary of State
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Veto Message: Governor Mead
1910 (H.126)

An act in amendment of section 5695 of the Public Statutes relating to homicide.

STATE OF VERMONT
Executive Department.
Montpelier, Vt., December 15, 1910.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from His Excellency, the Governor, as follows:

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives:

I return herewith House Bill No. 126, without my approval, not because of any objection to the bill fundamentally, but for the reason that I have grave doubts as to its application to pending causes, and as to offenses committed prior to February 1, 1911. The bill contains no saving clause as to such offenses and causes. Therefore as it stands I feel it my duty to return this bill without my signature.

The temper of the Vermont Legislature has been thoroughly tested in regard to qualified capital punishment, and I am fully satisfied that it is the sense of your Honorable body that such should be the policy of the State.

If the saving clause suggested had been incorporated in the bill it would have received my immediate sanction.

I would therefore recommend that another bill be introduced containing the additional provisions, that the act shall not apply to pending causes or to homicides committed prior to February 1, 1911, and that the same be passed.

JOHN A. MEAD,

**Governor's Veto Sustained
H.126, 1910**

The Governor's veto was sustained in the House by unanimous vote in the negative.

Sources: *Journal of the House*, December 15, 1910 (pages 420-421)