

*Office of the Vermont Secretary of State*  
**Vermont State Archives**

**Veto Message: Governor Mead  
1910 (H.342)**

**An act to provide for the ascertainment of damages in the event of the change of motive power by railroad corporations and street railroad companies.**

STATE OF VERMONT  
Executive Department.  
Montpelier, Vt., December 5, 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:*

The bill entitled, H. 342, "An Act to provide for the ascertainment of damages in the event of the change of motive power by railroad corporations and street railroad companies," seeks to delegate the right of eminent domain to the railroads operating under the provisions of this bill. But the bill makes no provisions for ascertainment of damages as a condition precedent to the exercise of such power. Further, the bill contains no provision for the payment of damages when the property rights are taken.

Therefore, in my judgment, the bill is in violation of Article Two of the Constitution of the State of Vermont and hence, unconstitutional. I therefore respectfully return this bill to the House of Representatives without my signature.

JOHN A. MEAD,  
Governor

**Governor's Veto sustained  
H.342 1910**

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

vote in the negative.

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Sources: *Journal of the House*, December 5, 1910 (pages 314-315)