

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

**Veto Message: Governor Fletcher  
1913 (S.132)**

**An act to appropriate a certain sum in aid of the Brattleboro Retreat.**

STATE OF VERMONT  
Executive Department.  
Montpelier, Vt., February 6, 1913.

*To the Honorable Senate:*

I herewith return without my approval Senate bill, No. 132, "An Act to appropriate a certain sum in aid of the Brattleboro Retreat."

There are two questions of state policy involved in this bill: *First*, Shall the state subsidize by donation corporations which are not controlled by it and over which it has no jurisdiction whatever? In this connection, it may be said, that in furtherance of that policy, the legislature of 1910 appropriated fifty thousand dollars for the Austine Institution in Brattleboro, an institution over which it has no control whatever. And this present session of legislature has appropriated twenty-five thousand dollars in addition to that sum. It would seem to me that the state has gone far enough in this direction, both for that and other institutions of a kindred nature.

The second question of the state policy which is involved is, Shall the state appropriate money for an institution over which it has not control and in which it has no proprietary interests, when the institution is successful within itself and has, if I am correctly informed, property valued at over one-half million dollars. This latter proposition is the vital one at issue in this bill. It may also be said in this connection that the state is already paying for all services received from this institution.

ALLEN M. FLETCHER,  
Governor

## The Governor's Veto Sustained S. 132, 1913

The Governor's veto was overridden in the Senate:  
**Yeas 15 Nays 12**

The Governor's veto was sustained in the House:  
**Yeas 72 Nays 124**

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Sources: *Journal of the Senate*, February 6, 1913 (pages 686-687, 730);  
*Journal of the House*, pages 924-925)