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**Veto Message: Governor Clement
1919 (S.95)**

An act to amend section 5294 of the General Laws, providing that the public service commission may initiate proceedings for the alteration of railroad grade crossings.

STATE OF VERMONT
Executive Department.
Montpelier, Vt., April 4, 1919

To the House Senate :

I have the honor to return herewith, without my approval, Senate bill entitled

S. 95. An act to amend section 5294 of the General Laws,- providing that- the public Service commission may initiate proceedings for the alterations of railroad grade crossings, for the following reasons:

The public service commission while not in the strict sense a court yet it exercises quasi judicial functions and for all practical purposes in the matter of elimination of railroad grade crossings it sits as a judicial tribunal to hear and determine facts upon evidence produced before it render judgment thereon. The power to initiate proceedings ought not to be extended to a body before whom such proceedings must of necessity under the law be determined, otherwise the rights of parties to have such questions determined by a fair and impartial tribunal are not satisfied.

PERCIVAL W. CLEMENT,
Governor.

Mr. Vilas moved that the bill, together with the objections be referred to the committees on judiciary and corporations and franchises.

Which was disagreed to, yes 7 no 17 upon a division of the Senate.

Governor's Veto Sustained
S.95, 1919

The Governor's veto was sustained in the Senate
Yeas 9 Nays 16.

Sources: *Journal of the Senate*, April 4, 1919 (pages 608-609)