



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

### **MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.**

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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Reel  
179

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66

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541

Bigelow pension plan, 1939.

Bigelow Plan  
~~Amendment~~  
B. Bills

for papers  
November 1, 1939

393

Insufficient thought has gone into the Bigelow Pension Plan. Its financial implications have not been sufficiently explored. It might collapse in its own tracks and bring down with it many other important systems of social service and education in our state which depend upon public funds. The present old age pension system in our state is by no means ideal but there has been, thanks to the Federal Social Security measures, a definite improvement in it quite recently.

It would be desirable to go along with the present system for a while and then make such improvements as experience will indicate. Drastic constitutional amendments should not be resorted to in the development of a social security measure the principle of which is already recognized in law and established in operation.

Many governments have broken down and democracy has frequently been brought into disrepute by good people trying to do too much good in too great a hurry.

The Bigelow Amendment should be defeated.

So should the other Bigelow Amendment, reducing the number of signatures required for the placing of a constitutional amendment or a law on the ballot. The proper functioning of democratic government does not at all require it. It appeals principally to minority pressure groups and should not be encouraged.

A. H. S.