

SENATE No. 522

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SENATE, April 15, 1915.

The Joint Special Committee which was appointed to prepare rules for the government of the two branches reports (in part) recommending that in addition to Joint Rule No. 1 previously adopted, the joint rules of the year 1914 be adopted as the joint rules of the present year, with the following changes and additions:—

Insert after Rule 7 the following now rule:

7A. A committee to which is referred a petition for legislation to authorize a city or town to reinstate in its service a person formerly employed by it shall report thereon leave to withdraw unless the person seeking to be reinstated has first petitioned the local police, district or municipal court for a review, as provided by law.

Strike out Rule 12 and insert in place thereof the following rule:

12. Every resolution intended for adoption, and every bill and resolve introduced on leave, every petition for legislation not enumerated in the ninth joint rule, every memorial favoring legislation, and every other measure that may serve as the basis of legislation, except messages from the governor and reports and communications required or authorized to be made to the general court or to either

branch thereof, shall, when laid before the branch in which it is presented or first taken up, be referred by the presiding officer thereof to the next General Court unless such measure, accompanied in the case of a petition or a memorial by a bill or resolve embodying the subject-matter prayed for, has been filed by a senator-elect with the clerk of the Senate, or by a representative-elect with the clerk of the House of Representatives not later than 5 o'clock P.M. on the third Wednesday preceding the convening of the General Court to which he has been elected; but this rule shall not apply to measures taken by either branch from its files of the preceding year previously to the second Saturday of the session, provided a member-elect of that branch has, not later than 5 o'clock P.M. on the third Wednesday preceding the convening of the general court, under his own signature notified the clerk of the branch to which he has been elected that he intends to move that the measure be taken from the files; nor shall this rule apply to petitions and memorials in aid of, and remonstrances against, legislation already introduced and pending; nor shall it apply to a petition offered in place of a former one having in view the same object, upon which, before reference to a committee, leave to withdraw was given because the same was not in proper form, provided such subsequent petition is deposited with the clerk of either branch within one week from the day on which leave to withdraw was given; nor shall it apply to a bill or resolve introduced on leave or to a resolution presented subsequently to the convening of the General Court, when such bill, resolve or resolution is based upon the report of a joint committee which has been made in compliance with instructions to report facts or to investigate, provided the said bill, resolve or resolution is introduced within one week after the committee's report is submitted. This rule shall not be rescinded, amended or suspended, except by a con-

current vote of four-fifths of the members of each branch present and voting thereon; *provided, however*, that, except by unanimous consent, it shall not be suspended with reference to a petition for legislation when such petition is not accompanied by a bill or resolve embodying the legislation requested.

Strike out Rule 13 and insert in place thereof the following rule:

13. Petitions and memorials, accompanied by bills or resolves embodying the subject-matter prayed for, bills and resolves for introduction on leave, and all other subjects of legislation, and all resolutions and orders of inquiry, intended for presentation to the General Court by any member elect, shall be filed with the clerk of the branch to which he has been elected; and the member-elect shall endorse his name on every measure so filed by him. After the convening of the General Court all measures of like nature intended for presentation by any member, shall be deposited with the clerk of the branch to which such member belongs, and shall be laid before such branch not later than at the session of the fourth legislative day succeeding the day on which the same have been so deposited.

Add at the end of Rule 33 the following words:—“provided, however, that further changes in, or additions to, these rules may, if they are based on the report of the Joint Special Committee on Legislative Procedure appointed by the General Court of 1914, be effected by majority votes, this rule and other rules to the contrary notwithstanding.”

HENRY G. WELLS,

For the Committee.

