

SENATE No. 62

To accompany the petition of the Massachusetts Town Clerk's Association, by Arthur J. Shinnars, president, for legislation relative to the tenure of town clerks. Towns.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Eight.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE TENURE OF OFFICE OF TOWN CLERKS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 41 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by inserting after section 1 the
3 following section:—

4 *Section 1A.* Every town clerk duly elected, except
5 a temporary clerk, who has served not less than five
6 years, shall hold office during good behavior, but
7 subject, however, to retirement under the provisions
8 of any applicable general or special law relative to
9 retirement systems.

1 SECTION 2. Section one A shall be submitted for
2 acceptance to the registered voters of a town at an
3 annual town meeting upon petition of two hundred
4 registered voters or of twenty per cent of the total
5 number of registered voters, substantially in the

6 form of the following question, which shall be placed
7 on the official ballot used for the election of officers at
8 such town election: —

9 Shall the town vote to accept the provisions of
10 section one A of chapter forty-one of the
11 General Laws, which provides life tenure
12 of the office of town clerk?

YES.	
NO.	

13 If a majority of the votes in answer to said question
14 is in the affirmative, then said section shall thereupon
15 take full effect in such town, but not otherwise.