

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1199

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By Messrs. Toomey of Cambridge and Whitmore of Newton, petition of the Massachusetts Federation of Taxpayers Associations, Inc., for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the enactment of laws affecting particular cities, towns or districts. Constitutional Law.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Two.

### PROPOSAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION RELATIVE TO THE ENACTMENT OF LAWS AFFECTING PARTICULAR CITIES, TOWNS OR DISTRICTS.

1 A majority of all the members elected to the Senate  
2 and House of Representatives, in joint session, hereby  
3 declares it to be expedient to alter the Constitution  
4 by the adoption of the following Article of Amendment,  
5 to the end that it may become a part of the Constitu-  
6 tion [if similarly agreed to in a joint session of the next  
7 General Court and approved by the people at the  
8 state election next following]:

9 ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

10 No law shall be passed by the general court which  
11 affects in any manner the form of government or the  
12 powers, rights, duties, property or affairs of a particular  
13 city, town, or water, light or fire district, or of any  
14 officer or agency thereof acting in its behalf, except  
15 with its approval or upon its request by the voters

16 thereof, by a town meeting or district meeting or, in  
17 a city, by the city council in accordance with its  
18 charter; or, if such measure applies exclusively to  
19 two or more adjoining cities or towns or to a city or  
20 town together with any district or districts contiguous  
21 thereto or included therein, in whole or in part, except  
22 with the approval or upon the request in like manner  
23 of at least one of them; provided, the governor may  
24 request and the general court may enact by a two-  
25 thirds vote of both of its branches any special, local  
26 law when, in his opinion, such enactment is immedi-  
27 ately necessary to protect the interests of the com-  
28 monwealth or the safety or security of the inhabitants  
29 of any such city, town or district.