

# HOUSE . . . . No. 994

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By Mr. Waterous of Pepperell (by request), petition of Robert L. Robichaud (selectman) for legislation to provide tenure of office for the chief of police Donald R. Morse of the town of Townsend. Towns.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

### AN ACT PROVIDING TENURE OF OFFICE FOR THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF THE TOWN OF TOWNSEND.

*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. The tenure of office of Donald R. Morse,  
2 the incumbent of the office of chief of police of the town  
3 of Townsend, shall be unlimited, but he may be removed  
4 therefrom, lowered in rank or compensation or trans-  
5 ferred upon the revocation of the acceptance of this act  
6 in the manner provided by section two thereof, or for  
7 cause after hearing in the manner provided by section  
8 forty-three of chapter thirty-one of the General Laws.

1 SECTION 2. At any time after the expiration of one  
2 year from the date on which this act is accepted, and  
3 not less than sixty days before the date of an annual  
4 meeting, a petition, signed by not less than ten per cent  
5 of the registered voters of the town, may be filed with  
6 the selectmen, requesting that the question of revoking  
7 the acceptance of this act be submitted to the voters.  
8 Thereupon the selectmen shall cause the question of  
9 revocation of the acceptance to be placed on the ballot  
10 at the next annual election. At said election the vote  
11 shall be taken in answer to the following question which

12 shall be printed on the official ballot: "Shall the accept-  
13 ance by the town of Townsend of an act passed by the  
14 General Court in the year nineteen hundred and fifty-five,  
15 entitled 'An Act providing tenure of office for the chief of  
16 police of the town of Townsend' be revoked?" If such  
17 revocation is favored by a majority of the voters voting  
18 thereon by ballot, the acceptance of this act shall be  
19 revoked and this act shall become null and void beginning  
20 with the first day of the month next following such  
21 revocation.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall be submitted to the voters  
2 of said town at the annual meeting in the year nineteen  
3 hundred and fifty-six in the form of the following ques-  
4 tion, which shall be placed upon the official ballot to be  
5 used for the election of town officers at said meeting: —  
6 "Shall an act passed by the general court in the year  
7 nineteen hundred and fifty-five, entitled 'An Act pro-  
8 viding tenure of office for the chief of police of the town  
9 of Townsend', be accepted?" If a majority of the votes  
10 in answer to said question is in the affirmative, then this  
11 act shall thereupon take full effect, but not otherwise.