
[Senate, No. 707. — Substituted by amendment by the Senate (Fleming) for the Senate Report of the committee on Constitutional Law, reference to the next annual session (under Joint Rule 10) on the Governor's Address (Senate, No. 1), in part (see page 22).]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

PROPOSAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
PROVIDING FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM FOR THE GOVERNOR OF THE
COMMONWEALTH.

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

8 ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

9 ART. . SECTION 1. Article LXIV of the articles of
10 amendment is hereby amended by striking out section 1, as
11 amended by article LXXX, and inserting in place thereof the
12 following section: —

13 *Section 1.* The governor shall be elected quadrennially and
14 the lieutenant-governor, secretary, treasurer and receiver-
15 general, attorney general, auditor, councillors, senators and
16 representatives shall be elected biennially. The term of the gov-
17 ernor shall begin at noon on the Thursday next following the
18 first Wednesday in January succeeding his election and shall
19 end at noon on the Thursday next following the first Wednes-
20 day in January in the fifth year following his election. The term

21 of the lieutenant-governor shall begin at noon on the Thursday
22 next following the first Wednesday in January succeeding his
23 election and shall end at noon on the Thursday next following
24 the first Wednesday in January in the third year following his
25 election. If the governor elect shall have died before the quali-
26 fication of the lieutenant-governor elect, the lieutenant-governor
27 elect upon qualification shall become governor. If both the gov-
28 ernor elect and the lieutenant-governor elect shall have died
29 both said offices shall be deemed to be vacant and the provision
30 of Article LV of the Amendments to the Constitution shall
31 apply. The terms of the secretary, treasurer and receiver-
32 general, attorney general and auditor shall begin with the third
33 Wednesday in January succeeding their election and shall ex-
34 tend to the third Wednesday in January in the third year follow-
35 ing their election and until their successors are chosen and
36 qualified. The terms of the councillors shall begin at noon on
37 the Thursday next following the first Wednesday in January
38 succeeding their election and shall end at noon on the Thursday
39 next following the first Wednesday in January in the third year
40 following their election. The terms of senators and representa-
41 tives shall begin with the first Wednesday in January succeed-
42 ing their election and shall extend to the first Wednesday in
43 January in the third year following their election and until their
44 successors are chosen and qualified.

1 SECTION 2. Said Article LXIV is hereby further amended by
2 striking out section 4 and inserting in place thereof the follow-
3 ing section: —

4 *Section 4.* The first election to which this article shall apply
5 shall be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday of
6 November in the year nineteen hundred and sixty-two, and
7 thereafter, elections for the choice of a governor shall be held
8 quadrennially and elections for the choice of a lieutenant-governor,
9 secretary, treasurer and receiver-general, attorney general
10 and an auditor, and the elections for the choice of councillors,
11 senators and representatives shall be held biennially on the
12 Tuesday next after the first Monday in November.