

HOUSE No. 889

By Mr. Richter of Brookline, petition of Hibbard Richter for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the enactment of laws affecting particular cities, towns or districts. Constitutional Law.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

PROPOSAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION RELATIVE TO THE ENACTMENT OF LAWS AFFECTING PARTICULAR CITIES, TOWN 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 Amend-
5 ment, to the end that it may become a part of the
6 Constitution [if similarly agreed to in a joint session
7 of the next General Court and approved by the people
8 at the 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 par-
13 ticular city, town or water, light or fire district, or of
14 any officer or agency thereof acting in its behalf, ex-
15 cept with its approval or upon its request by the
16 voters thereof, by a town meeting or district meeting

17 or, in a city, by the city council in accordance with
18 its 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.