

HOUSE No. 1031

Resolve accompanying the petition of W. Scott and others for the appointment of a commission to investigate the question of local suffrage and unfranchised taxpayers. Election Laws. January 18.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixteen.

RESOLVE

Providing for the Appointment of a Special Commission to investigate the Question of Local Suffrage and Unfranchised Taxpayers.

1 *Resolved*, That a commission on local suffrage, consist-
2 ing of three persons, be appointed by the governor and
3 council, to serve for one year; said commission to be
4 unpaid, their duties to be as follows:—

5 1. To ascertain what number of male citizens of Massa-
6 chusetts, paying taxes in Boston, are without vote in the
7 municipal elections of said city. The same inquiry may,
8 if possible, be extended to a few of the other cities and
9 towns of the state.

10 2. To ascertain what number of female residents of
11 Massachusetts pay taxes in said city, whether resident or
12 non-resident.

13 3. To inquire as to the terms of municipal suffrage or
14 local suffrage in other countries.

15 4. To arrange for public hearings on the subject of
16 local suffrage so far as in their judgment is expedient.

17 5. To suggest any features of local suffrage (town,
18 municipal) which in their judgment may improve the
19 local electorates of the towns and cities of Massachusetts.

20 6. The governor and council may at their discretion
21 allow funds for necessary expenses incurred by said com-
22 mission.

23 7. The commission shall present their report on or
24 before January 15, 1917, to the general court.