

HOUSE No. 1691

By Mr. Catino of Medford, petition of Charles H. McGlue that the signatures of ten per cent of the registered voters in cities, towns or districts be required prior to the placing on ballots the question of fluoridation of water supplies. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-One.

AN ACT REQUIRING THE SIGNATURES OF TEN PER CENT OF THE REGISTERED VOTERS OF ANY CITY, TOWN OR DISTRICT PRIOR TO PLACING THE QUESTION OF FLUORIDATION ON THE BALLOT AT AN ELECTION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 40 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 41B, inserted by chapter 254 of the acts of 1958, 2 and inserting in place thereof the following section:—

3 *Section 41B.* No public water supply for domestic use in 4 any city, town or district supplying such water which is not 5 being fluoridated prior to September first, nineteen hundred and 6 fifty-eight, shall thereafter be fluoridated by any such city, town 7 or district or combination of two or more towns supplying such 8 water jointly unless the will of the voters of such city, town or 9 district, or of the towns being supplied such water by such combination of towns is first ascertained as herein provided. Upon 10 petition of ten per cent of the registered voters of said city, 11 town or district the following question shall be placed upon the 12 official ballot to be used at the next regular municipal election 13 or for the election of town officers at the next annual town 14 meeting or meetings:—“Shall the public water supply for 15 domestic use in (this city) (this town) (the towns of 16 and 17), be fluoridated?”, or in such district may 18 require that the following question be placed before the next 19

20 annual meeting of the inhabitants of the district: — “Shall the
21 public water supply for domestic use in this district be fluori-
22 dated?”

23 — If a majority of the votes in answer to said question is in the
24 affirmative, it shall be deemed and taken to be the will of the
25 voters of the said city, town or towns or district that the pub-
26 lic water supply for domestic use shall be fluoridated, and if a
27 majority of said votes is in the negative, it shall be deemed and
28 taken to be the will of said voters that such supply shall not be
29 fluoridated.