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By Mr. Rider of Needham, petition of Daniel H. Rider for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the enactment of laws affecting municipal expenditures and taxation. Constitutional Law.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

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PROPOSAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION  
RELATIVE TO THE ENACTMENT OF LAWS AFFECTING MUNICIPAL  
EXPENDITURES AND TAXATION.

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

8 ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

9 No general or special law enacted after the effective date of this  
10 amendment granting exemptions from local taxation, regulating  
11 the terms or conditions of municipal employment, increasing the  
12 benefits payable to any class of persons, or otherwise requiring  
13 increased expenditures for any municipal purpose, shall be effec-  
14 tive in any city or town until such law is accepted, by vote or by  
15 specific appropriation of money for such purpose, in the case of a  
16 city, by the city council in accordance with its charter, and in the  
17 case of a town, by a town meeting, unless such law has been  
18 enacted by the general court by a two-thirds vote of each of its  
19 branches, or unless the general court, at the same session in which  
20 such law was enacted, has provided for the assumption by the  
21 commonwealth of any such expenditure or of any loss of taxes  
22 resulting from such exemption.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year of the Town of New Bedford, the Twenty-Second Day of June, 1856.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of amending the laws relating to the regulation of the harbor of New Bedford, and to report thereon to the next session of the town meeting.

And the committee be authorized to employ such clerks and messengers as may be necessary for the execution of the foregoing resolution, and to receive such compensation as may be deemed proper by the town meeting.

ARTICLE OF ASSOCIATION

That the undersigned do hereby associate themselves together for the purpose of forming a new town meeting in the town of New Bedford, and do hereby agree to be bound by the laws and regulations of the town meeting so formed, and to contribute towards the support of the same such sum of money as may be required by the town meeting, and to be subject to the same in all respects as if they were members of the same.

Witness my hand and seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1856.

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