

By Mr. Harrison of Gloucester, petition of the Massachusetts Federation of Taxpayers Associations, Inc., for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the enactment of laws affecting municipal expenditures and taxation. Constitutional Law.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

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

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

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

8 ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT

9 The general court shall not enact any law imposing addi-  
10 tional costs upon two or more cities or towns by the regulation  
11 of the compensation, hours, status, conditions, or benefits of  
12 municipal employment unless such law contains a provision  
13 that it shall not be effective in any city or town until it has  
14 been accepted by such city or town by vote of the city council,  
15 subject to the provisions of its charter, or by vote of the town  
16 or unless such law or any law granting or increasing exemp-  
17 tions from local taxation, increasing the benefits payable to  
18 any class of persons, or otherwise requiring increased expendi-  
19 tures for any municipal purpose, is enacted by two thirds of  
20 the members of each house voting thereon or the general court

21 provides, at the same regular annual session at which any such  
22 law is enacted, for the assumption by the commonwealth of such  
23 additional costs, or increased expenditures or of any loss of  
24 taxes resulting from such exemption.