

By Mr. Marsh of Wellesley, petition of Robert H. Marsh for a legislative amendment to the Constitution to provide for terminating sessions of the General Court on the day preceding the first Wednesday of July each year. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety.

PROPOSAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
RELATIVE TO THE LENGTH OF THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL COURT.

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

8 **ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.**

9 The general court shall assemble in regular session on the first
10 Wednesday of January of each year and such session shall
11 terminate on the day preceding the first Wednesday of July of each
12 year unless it be sooner prorogued or adjourned; but nothing
13 contained herein shall prevent the general court from assembling
14 for a special session at such other times as they shall judge
15 necessary on petition by a majority of the members of each house
16 or when called together by the governor. Upon the termination
17 of a regular session all matters on which legislative action has not
18 been completed shall be considered rejected; except that if action
19 on an initiative amendment shall not have been completed before
20 the termination of the second regular session of a general court,
21 such amendment shall be subject to the provisions of sections four
22 and five or Part IV, Legislative Action on Proposed Amendments,
23 of Article LXVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution in the
24 same manner as if such amendment has received the affirmative
25 votes of not less than one-fourth of all the members elected.

