

By Mr. Pierce of Westfield, petition of Steven D. Pierce and other members of the General Court relative to amending the Joint Rules of the two branches to provide for the "carry-over" of certain legislation from the first to the second annual session of the General Court. Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety.

1 *Ordered*, That the Joint Rules be amended as follows:
2 By inserting after Joint Rule 10, as amended, the following new
3 rule: —

4 "10B. Any matter introduced in the first annual session of the
5 General Court may be carried over to the second annual session
6 by a joint standing committee upon the written and signed report
7 of two-thirds of the members of the Senate and two-thirds of the
8 members of the House appointed to said committee or, in the case
9 of a standing committee of the House or Senate, upon the written
10 and signed report of two-thirds of all the members appointed to
11 said committee and upon said report being recorded in the
12 Journals of the two branches. Matters to be carried over shall be
13 grouped in a single report whenever it is possible and reasonable
14 to do so. Any matter to be carried over shall be so reported not
15 later than the fourth Wednesday of April of the first annual session
16 of the General Court. It shall be in order for a member to move
17 that a joint standing committee or a standing committee of the
18 House or Senate be discharged by a majority vote from its action
19 to carry over a matter during the five legislative days next following
20 the notice of such action by said committee and after said notice
21 appears in the Journal of the branch to which said member is
22 elected.

23 A committee so ordered shall report the matter to the branch
24 discharging said committee within ten legislative days. Members
25 of the Senate may move to discharge Senate matters only and
26 members of the House of Representatives may move to discharge
27 House matters only, excepting those matters which have been

28 recommitted or by specific rule must be reported into the House
29 and a concurrent vote of the two branches shall not be necessary
30 to discharge the committee. A second motion to discharge any
31 matter designated as matter to be carried over shall not be
32 entertained if objection is made. Members of the General Court
33 whose matters have been carried over under the provisions of this
34 rule shall be notified forthwith of such action by the Bulletin
35 Clerk."

36 Consideration of any matter pending before a joint committee
37 of conference of the two branches on the disagreeing votes thereof
38 at the end of the first annual session and any special session shall
39 be resumed at the commencement of the second annual session
40 of the same General Court. In each instance with relation to a
41 committee of conference, the Committee shall be dissolved at the
42 time of prorogation of the General Court and a new committee
43 shall be appointed on or after December 1 in the year preceding
44 the second annual session of the same General Court.