

SENATE No. 486

By Mr. Barrett (by request), a petition (accompanied by proposal, Senate, No. 486) of Walter J. Ziobro, Jr., for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the method of appointing judges. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two.

PROPOSAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
RELATIVE TO THE METHOD OF APPOINTING JUDGES.

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 All judges shall henceforth be nominated and appointed by the
10 governor, and all such appointments shall be confirmed by a
11 majority of the voters of each respective jurisdiction in the next
12 election for the General Court. Judges nominated prior to any
13 such election shall serve provisionally until that election. The
14 General Court may by law establish a commission to review the
15 credentials and qualifications of each nominee, and report its
16 findings in each case to the voters prior to any such election, but
17 no such body may bar the confirmation of anyone for whom no
18 constitutional prohibition is found.

