By Mr. Rolfe of Newbury, petition of Joseph D. Rolfe that revenue loan orders in cities having standard charters be not published and be not subject to referendum. Municipal Finance.

The Commonwealth of Wassachusetts

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

An Act providing that Revenue Loan Orders by Cities having Standard Form Charters need not be published and shall not be subject to the Referendum Provisions of Said Charters.

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

- 1 Section 1. Section twenty-three of chapter forty-
- 2 three of the General Laws, as appearing in the Ter-
- 3 centenary edition, is hereby amended by inserting
- 4 after the word "except" in the first line the words: —
- 5 revenue loan orders and, so as to read as follows: —
- 6 Section 23. Every proposed ordinance or loan order,
- 7 except revenue loan orders and emergency measures
- 8 as hereinbefore defined, shall be published once in full
- 9 in at least one newspaper of the city, and in any
- 10 additional manner that may be provided by ordinance,
- 11 at least ten days before its final passage. After such
- 12 final passage, it shall, in the same manner as before,
- 13 again be published once, as amended and completed,

14 except in the case of an emergency ordinance which
15 may be passed as hereinbefore provided and which
16 shall take effect on its passage, and shall be so pub17 lished at the earliest practicable moment; provided,
18 that if any ordinance or proposed ordinance, or
19 codification of ordinances or proposed ordinances,
20 shall exceed in length eight octavo pages of ordinary
21 book print, then, in lieu of the advertising required
22 by this section, the same may be published by the
23 city council in a municipal bulletin or printed pamph24 let, and if so published in full at least ten days before
25 its final passage, and thereafter, as amended and
26 completed, again published in such bulletin or pamph27 let, said publications shall be deemed sufficient
28 without the newspaper publication as herein required.

Section 2. Section forty-two of said chapter 1 2 forty-three, as so appearing, is hereby amended by 3 inserting after the word "measure" in the second 4 line the words: —, except a revenue loan order, — 5 so as to read as follows: - Section 42. If, within 6 twenty days after the final passage of any measure, 7 except a revenue loan order, by the city council or 8 by the school committee, a petition signed by regis-9 tered voters of the city, equal in number to at least 10 twelve per cent of the total number of registered 11 voters, is presented to the city council or to the school 12 committee, as the case may be, protesting against 13 such measure, or any part thereof, taking effect, the 14 same shall thereupon and thereby be suspended from 15 taking effect; and the city council or the school com-16 mittee, as the case may be, shall immediately recon-17 sider such measure or part thereof; and if such meas-18 ure or part thereof is not entirely rescinded, the city 19 council shall submit the same, by the method herein

20 provided, to a vote of the registered voters of the city,

21 either at the next regular city election, or at a special

22 election which may, in its discretion, be called for the

23 purpose, and such measure or part thereof shall forth-

24 with become null and void unless a majority of the

25 registered voters voting on the same at such election

26 vote in favor thereof.

The petition described in this section shall be termed a referendum petition and section thirty-eight shall

29 apply to the procedure in respect thereto, except that

30 the words "measure or part thereof protested against"

31 shall for this purpose be understood to replace "meas-

32 ure" in said section wherever it may occur, and

33 "referendum" shall be understood to replace the

34 word "initiative" in said section.