

By Mr. Businger of Brookline, petition of John A. Businger for a legislative amendment to the Constitution to provide for increasing the number of members of the Senate. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

PROPOSAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
PROVIDING FOR A FIFTY-SIX MEMBER SENATE.

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 Article CI of the Amendments to the Constitution of the
10 Commonwealth is hereby amended by striking out Section 2 and
11 inserting in place thereof the following section: —

12 Section 2. Each such census of inhabitants required in section
13 one shall likewise be the basis for determining the senatorial
14 districts and also the councillor districts for the ten-year period
15 beginning with the first Wednesday in the fourth January
16 following the taking of such census; provided that such districts
17 as established based on the census in the year nineteen hundred
18 and seventy-one shall terminate on the first Wednesday in January
19 in the year nineteen hundred and seventy-nine. The senate shall
20 consist of fifty-six members. The general court shall, at its first
21 regular session after the year in which said census is taken, divide
22 the commonwealth into fifty-six districts of contiguous territory,
23 each district to contain, as nearly as may be, an equal number
24 of inhabitants according to said census; and such districts shall

25 be formed, as nearly as may be, without uniting two counties, or
26 parts of two or more counties, into one district. The general court
27 may by law limit the time within which judicial proceedings may
28 be instituted calling in question such division. Each district shall
29 elect one senator, who shall have been an inhabitant of this
30 commonwealth five years at least immediately preceding his
31 election and at the time of his election shall be an inhabitant of
32 the district for which he is chosen; and he shall cease to represent
33 such senatorial district when he shall cease to be an inhabitant
34 of the commonwealth. The manner of calling and conducting the
35 elections for the choice of senators and councillors, and of
36 ascertaining their election, shall be prescribed by law.