

By Mr. Businger of Brookline, petition of John A. Businger for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to reducing the residency requirements for Senators and Councillors from five years to one year. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

PROPOSAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION REDUCING THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR SENATORS AND COUNCILLORS FROM FIVE YEARS TO ONE YEAR.

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

8 **ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.**

9 ART. . *Section 1.* Article XVI of the Amendments to the
10 Constitution is hereby amended by striking out the fourth sentence
11 and inserting in place thereof the following sentence: — No person
12 shall be eligible to the office of councillor who has not been an
13 inhabitant of the commonwealth for the term of one year imme-
14 diately preceding election.

15 *Section 2.* Section 2 of Article XCII of the Amendments to the
16 Constitution is hereby amended by striking out the fifth sentence
17 and inserting in place thereof the following sentence: — Each
18 district shall elect one senator, who shall have been an inhabitant of
19 this commonwealth one year at least immediately preceding his
20 election, and at the time of his election shall be an inhabitant of the
21 district for which he is chosen; and he shall cease to represent such
22 senatorial district when he shall cease to be an inhabitant of the
23 commonwealth.

REPORT OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF THE

LAND OFFICE

IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

IN 1856

AND

IN ANSWER TO A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES