

By Ms. Khan of Newton, petition of Kay Khan, David B. Cohen and Peter J. Koutoujian that cities be authorized to limit the size of their legislative bodies to sixteen members. Local Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

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

1 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, and
2 subject to local approval, no city shall have a legislative body that
3 exceeds sixteen members. A city may accept the provisions of this
4 act in the following manner: the voters of any such city may by a
5 majority vote on a question placed on the local ballot at a regular
6 city election vote on a question in the following form:

7 "Shall the (board of alderman/city council) of _____ have
8 (a number less than seventeen) members?

9 YES _____ NO _____".

10 Such question shall be so placed, if signatures of registered
11 voters representing one percent of the city's registered voters or
12 five hundred registered voters of the city, whichever is less, are
13 presented to the city clerk at least ninety days before said election.

