

SENATE No. 849

By Mr. Parker, a petition (accompanied by proposal, Senate, No. 849) of John F. Parker, Robert A. Hall, David H. Locke and John H. Fitzpatrick for a legislative amendment to the Constitution to authorize the imposition of capital punishment. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-nine.

PROPOSAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION AUTHORIZING THE IMPOSITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

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

ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

ARTICLE Article XXVI of Part the First of the Constitution is hereby amended by adding at the end the following two sentences: —

The legislature may for the purpose of protecting the general welfare of the citizens authorize the imposition of capital punishment. No provision of the Constitution shall be construed as prohibiting the imposition of capital punishment.

