

By Mr. Boynton of Boston (by request), petition of Joseph L. Richards and others for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the vote required for the election of certain state officers. Constitutional Law.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

PROPOSAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION RELATIVE TO THE ELECTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS.

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

9 ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

10 Article XIV of the Amendments to the Constitution
11 of the Commonwealth hereby is amended by striking
12 out said Article XIV and substituting a new article
13 therefor as follows:—

14 In all election of civil officers by the people of this
15 commonwealth, whose election is provided for by the
16 Constitution, the persons elected either shall receive at
17 least one more than one half the number of votes cast
18 to fill a single office voted on separately or shall receive
19 a number of votes which is one more than that frac-
20 tion of the total number of votes cast for several officers
21 to be elected as a body or in a group, the denominator
22 of which is greater by one than the number of officers
23 to be elected as a body or in a group, before they are
24 deemed or declared to be elected.

