

HOUSE No. 3834

By Representative Jones and Senator Tisei, joint petition of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others for a legislative amendment to the Constitution providing for a two year budget process for the Commonwealth. Ways and Means. (Joint).

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.	Robert S. Hargraves
Richard R. Tisei	Robert L. Hedlund
Paul J. P. Loscocco	Bradford Hill
Bruce E. Tarr	Donald F. Humason, Jr.
Mary S. Rogeness	Michael R. Knapik
George N. Peterson, Jr.	Jeffrey Davis Perry
John A. Lepper	Elizabeth A. Poirier
Viriato Manuel deMacedo	Karyn E. Polito
F. Jay Barrows	Richard J. Ross
Scott P. Brown	Todd M. Smola
Paul K. Frost	Daniel K. Webster
Susan Williams Gifford	Lewis G. Evangelidis

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

PROPOSAL FOR A LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
PROVIDING FOR A TWO YEAR BUDGET PROCESS FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH.

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

8 ARTICLE OF AMENDMENT.

9 Section 2 of Article LXIII of the Articles of Amendment to the
10 Constitution of the Commonwealth, as most recently amended by

11 Article CXII of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution, is
12 hereby annulled and the following is adopted in place thereof:—
13 Section 2. The Budget. Within three weeks after the convening
14 of the general court the governor shall recommend to the general
15 court a budget which shall contain a statement of all proposed
16 expenditures of the Commonwealth for the next two fiscal years,
17 including those already authorized by law, and of all taxes, rev-
18 enues, loans and other means by which such expenditures shall be
19 defrayed. In the first year of the term of office of a governor who
20 has not served in the preceding year said governor shall recom-
21 mend such budget within eight weeks after the convening of the
22 general court. The budget shall be arranged in such form as the
23 general court may by law prescribe, or, in default thereof, as the
24 governor shall determine. For the purpose of preparing his budget,
25 the governor shall have the power to require any board, commis-
26 sion, officer or department to furnish him with any information
27 which he may deem necessary.