HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2322 FILED ON: 1/17/2013

HOUSE . . . . . No. 64

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Denise Andrews

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying:

Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the terms of office of Executive Councilors and members of the General Court.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Denise Andrews	*2nd Franklin*
Cleon H. Turner	*1st Barnstable*

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 64

By Ms. Andrews of Orange, a petition (accompanied by proposal, House, No. 64) of Denise Andrews and Cleon H. Turner for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the terms of office of Executive Councilors and members of the General Court. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the terms of office of Executive Councilors and members of the General Court.

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 LXIV of the Amendments to the Constitution, as amended by Article LXXX of said Amendments, is hereby annulled, and the following is adopted in place thereof:-

Article LXIV. Section 1. The governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary, treasurer and receiver-general, attorney general, and auditor shall be elected quadrennially and councilors, senators and representatives shall be elected quadrennially. The terms of the governor and lieutenant-governor shall begin at noon on the Thursday next following the first Wednesday in January succeeding their election and shall end at noon on the Thursday next following the first Wednesday in January in the fifth year following their election. If the governor elect shall have died before the qualification of the lieutenant-governor elect, the lieutenant-governor elect upon qualification shall become governor. If both the governor elect and the lieutenant-governor elect shall have died both said offices shall be deemed to be vacant and the provisions of Article LV of the Amendments to the Constitution shall apply. The terms of the secretary, treasurer and receiver-general, attorney general, and auditor shall begin with the third Wednesday in January succeeding their election and shall extend to the third Wednesday in January in the fifth year following their election and until their successors are chosen and qualified. The terms of the councilors shall begin at noon on the Thursday next following the first Wednesday in January succeeding their election and shall end at noon on the Thursday next following the first Wednesday in January in the fifth year following their election. The terms of senators and

representatives shall begin with the first Wednesday in January succeeding their election and shall extend to the first Wednesday in January in the fifth year following their election and until their successors are chosen and qualified.

Section 2. The general court shall assemble every year on the first Wednesday in January.

Section 3. The first election to which this article shall apply shall be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November in the year two thousand and eighteen, and thereafter elections for the choice of a governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary, treasurer and receiver-general, attorney general, and auditor shall be held quadrennially on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November and elections for the choice of councilors, senators and representatives shall be held quadrennially on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November.