SENATE DOCKET, NO. 692 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

SENATE . . . . . No. 12

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cynthia S. Creem

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 subject matter of initiative petitions.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Cynthia S. Creem	*[District]*
Martha M. Walz	*8th Suffolk*
James B. Eldridge	*[District]*
Linda Dorcena Forry	*12th Suffolk*

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SENATE . . . . . No. 12

By Ms. Cynthia Creem, petition (accompanied by proposal for constitutional amendment, Senate, No. 00012) of Cynthia Creem, Marty Walz, James Eldridge and Linda Dorcena Forry for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the subject matter of initiative petitions. Joint Committee on the Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the subject matter of initiative petitions.

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.

Section 2 of Part II, "Initiative Petitions," of Article XLVIII of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth is hereby amended by inserting after the third paragraph a new paragraph, as follows:--

No initiative petition shall propose a constitutional amendment that would restrict the rights set forth in this constitution to freedom and equality, or the right of each individual to be protected by society in the enjoyment of life, liberty and property, according to standing laws.