

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
BILL SUMMARY**

<b>BILL NO:</b>	H66
<b>TITLE:</b>	Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the oaths and affirmations of public office.
<b>SPONSOR:</b>	Rep. Kate Donaghue
<b>CO-SPONSORS:</b>	None
<b>HEARING DATE:</b>	April 8, 2025
<b>PRIOR HISTORY:</b>	2023-2024, H33 (Domb) 2021-2022, H80 (Domb) 2019-2020, H.81 (Domb)
<b>COMPANION BILL:</b>	None
<b>CURRENT LAW:</b>	Article VI of the Amendments to the Massachusetts State Constitution provides the required oath of office for every person chosen or appointed to office. The oath uses male pronouns and references God. Paragraph three offers an alternative affirmation for Quakers that omits references to God.
<b>SUMMARY:</b>	The bill strikes all of Article VI and replaces it with a single paragraph offering one oath of office that is gender neutral and does not include religious language.