HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2112 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1828

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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 providing for a two year budget process for the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Bradley H. Jones, Jr.	*20th Middlesex*
Steven L. Levy	*4th Middlesex*
Paul K. Frost	*7th Worcester*
Todd M. Smola	*1st Hampden*
George N. Peterson, Jr.	*9th Worcester*
Elizabeth A. Poirier	*14th Bristol*
Viriato Manuel deMacedo	*1st Plymouth*
Bradford Hill	*4th Essex*
Donald H. Wong	*9th Essex*

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 1828

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by proposal for constitutional amendment, House, No. 1828) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr. and others for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to a biennial state budget. Ways and Means (Joint).

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution providing for a two year budget process for the Commonwealth.

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.

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 at 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 Article LXIII of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth, as most recently amended by Article CXII of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution, is hereby annulled and the following is adopted in place thereof:--

Section 2. The Budget. - Within three weeks after the convening of the general court the governor shall recommend to the general court a budget which shall contain a statement of all proposed expenditures of the commonwealth for the next two fiscal years, including those already authorized by law, and of all taxes, revenues, loans and other means by which such expenditures shall be defrayed. In the first year of the term of office of a governor who has not served in the preceding year said governor shall recommend such budget within eight weeks after the convening of the general court. The budget shall be arranged in such form as the general

17 court may by law prescribe, or, in default thereof, as the governor shall determine. For the
18 purpose of preparing his budget, the governor shall have the power to require any board,
19 commission, officer or department to furnish him with any information which he may deem
20 necessary.