

HOUSE No. 81

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mindy Domb

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 adoption of the accompanying proposal for constitutional amendment:

Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the oaths and affirmations of public office.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel Cahill</i>	<i>10th Essex</i>
<i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>
<i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Tommy Vitolo</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>

HOUSE No. 81

By Ms. Domb of Amherst, a petition (accompanied by proposal for constitutional amendment, House, No. 81) of Mindy Domb and others for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the oaths and affirmations of public office. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Constitution relative to the oaths and affirmations of public office.

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.

1 Article of Amendment

2 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth recognizes and honors that its residents come from a
3 broad spectrum of religious backgrounds;

4 WHEREAS, there are many individuals across the Commonwealth who have religious or
5 other reasonable rationale for objecting to being required to swear while taking an Oath;

6 WHEREAS, individuals with such objections should be given the opportunity to affirm
7 their allegiance instead;

8 Now, THEREFORE, the Proposal for a legislative amendment to the Massachusetts
9 Constitution of 1780, paragraph 3 of Article VI of the Amendments to the Constitution is hereby
10 amended as follows:

11 1. by striking the words "shall be of the denomination called Quakers and"

12 by striking the word "he" and replacing with "they"