

## ARTICLE 25:

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation to amend the Town Charter as recommended by the Charter Review Committee as follows; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approve amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and authorizing the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition,

Amend Chapter 4, Section 2, Simultaneous Elected Offices 4-2-1 [Amended by Chapter 336 of the Acts of 2012, Massachusetts General Court] No representative town meeting member, or elected town official representing the entire town, shall hold simultaneously any other elected town office other than member of a Charter Commission. Any person who holds multiple offices in violation of this section shall promptly inform the Town Clerk as to which office that person will vacate. *After Election and once sworn in* to any county, state or federal office other than county charter commission, ~~shall be the act of swearing in the person is deemed~~ to be an event disqualifying an elected town official including, but not limited to, representative town meeting member, from continuing in ~~an~~ *his or her* elected town office. Or take any other action relative thereto.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

### **RECOMMENDATION: Approval (Unanimous, 13-0-0)**

The Advisory & Finance Committee recommends Town Meeting approve Article 25. Approval of this article amends Chapter 4-2-1 of the Charter pertaining to elected town officials not holding any other elected position simultaneously (except that of Charter Commission). This enables an elected town official to continue to conduct business until the swearing in date of their new position.

## Plymouth Charter Review Committee 2015

### **ARTICLE 25:**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 4-2-1 as follows: No representative town meeting member or elected town official representing the entire town shall hold simultaneously any other elected town office other than member of a charter commission. Any person who holds multiple offices in violation of this section shall promptly inform the town clerk as to which office that person will vacate. Election to any county, state or federal office other than county charter commission shall be an event disqualifying an elected town official, including, but not limited to, representative town meeting member, from continuing in an elected town *office beginning the day s/he is sworn in to the county, state, or federal office.*

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The intent of this change is to avoid the situation when an elected town official, is elected to a state or federal office, as presently written that person is immediately ineligible to continue in their current role, despite the fact it can be many weeks before that person assumes their new office.

This change will allow the town to continue to conduct business until the swearing in date of the person in the newly elected position.

It can also allow the town time to implement the process to fill the soon to be vacated seat.

### CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE 2015

- Tom Baratka
- Tiffany Cessero
- Tim Grandy
- Karen Keane, Committee Clerk
- Mike Lincoln, Committee Chair
- Douglas O'Roak, Committee Vice Chair
- Anita M. Rocheteau
- Craig Sander
- Scott Stephenson