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Bristol Freeholders Petition to the General Assembly pre-31 March 1788

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island &c. to be Convened at East Greenwich on the Last Monday of March AD 1788—

The Petition of the Subscribers Freeman and Freeholders of the Town of Bristol in said State most Respectfully Sheweth—that your Petitioners are deeply impressed with The Conviction of the Expediency of having a State Convention holden in this State for the purpose of discussing and deciding on the New Constitution proposed for the United States. This measure in the opinion of your Humble Petitioners is become Expedient not only from that decent Respect which is due to those who first Recommended it—but we conceive it will afford the Advocates and opponents of this New System of Government an Opportunity fully to Examine and display all its Excellences, and all its defects and the People of this State, from so liberal a discussion will be fully Qualified in point of Information to decide on the important Question by their Delegates in the State Convention Your Petitioners therefore most humbly pray that your Honors will be pleased at the Next Session, to Recommend to the freemen of this State to Elect Delegates in the Several towns to meet in a State Convention fully and freely to Examine and discuss the new Constitution fully and to decide thereon—

And your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever [pray?]

Josiah Finney	Jos. W. Greene	Nathaniel Smith 2d	Jeremiah Ingraham
Richard Smith	Tho Church 2d.	Jeremiah Diman	Nathl. Smith
Willm Gladding	Saml. V Peck	James Diman	Moses Van Doorn
Sam Church	Simeon Munro	Samuel Smith	Saml Wardwell
John Waldron	Daniel Lefavour	John May	A Bonam
George Coggeshall	Charles DWolfe	John Gladding	Jonathan Diman
Jonathan Peck	Josiah Smith	John Norris	William Coggeshall
Jonathan Peck Jr	William Fales	John Gladding Junior	Thomas Swan
Seabury Manchester	William Munro. 2d	Joseph Diman	Jonathan Fales
Joshua Gladdng	Simeon Ingraham	Richd. Smith Jr.	Solomon Drown
Isaac Wardell	Newton Waldron	Jonn. Russell	William Lindsey
William Smith	[Eza?] Cooke [sr?]	Stephen Smith	Benjamin Hoar
Benjamin Wardwelle	John Waldron 2d	Samuel R Pain	John Howland

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