

*State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations.**To the FREEMEN of the State aforesaid.*

ELISHA R. POTTER, Esq; the First Representative of this State in the Fifth Congress of the *United States of America*, having, by his Letter to me of the 18th Instant, which I have received this Day, declared his Resignation of his Seat as a Member of the said Congress: I do therefore, by Virtue of the Authority vested in me by the Constitution of the said *United States*, hereby call upon and require you, at your respective Town-Meetings, to be holden on the last *Tuesday* in *August* next, to elect a suitable Person, legally qualified, to sit as the First Representative of this State, in the Room of the said *Elisba R. Potter*, in the House of Representatives of the Fifth Congress of the said *United States*, until the Fourth Day of *March*, which will be in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-nine.--- And the several Town-Clerks in the State are hereby required to read this Direction to the Freemen of their respective Towns, immediately after the opening of the said Town-Meeting, and to enclose and seal up the Proxes that shall then be put in for such Representative, and return them to the General Assembly, at the Session to be holden, by Adjournment, at *Bristol*, on the Second *Monday* in *September* next.

GIVEN under my Hand, at *Providence*, this Twenty-fourth Day of *July*, A. D. 1797, and in the Twenty-~~fourth~~ Year of Independence.



Governor.