

SENATE No. 53

To accompany the petition of Henry Parkman, Jr., for legislation relative to the organization of political committees. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-One.

An Act relative to the Organization of Political Committees.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would
2 cause substantial inconvenience, therefore it is
3 hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary
4 for the immediate preservation of the public con-
5 venience.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section one of chapter fifty-two of the General
2 Laws, as most recently amended by chapter two
3 hundred ninety-five of the acts of nineteen
4 hundred twenty-seven, is hereby further amended
5 by inserting after the word "elect" at the end
6 of the second paragraph the following:—The
7 state committee shall not be limited in the choice
8 of officers to its own membership but may elect
9 officers from outside its membership from among
10 the enrolled members of the same political party.

11 Such officers when so elected shall by virtue of
12 their election become members of the state com-
13 mittee and shall hold office until their successors
14 are elected and qualified. Officers elected from out-
15 side the membership of a state committee shall at
16 no time exceed three in number,—so that the first
17 section shall read as follows:—*Section 1.* Each
18 political party shall, in the manner herein provided,
19 elect from among its enrolled members a state com-
20 mittee, the members of which shall hold office for
21 two years from January first next following their
22 election and until their successors shall have or-
23 ganized. Said committee shall consist of one mem-
24 ber from each senatorial district, to be elected at
25 the primaries before each biennial state election by
26 plurality vote of the members of his party in the
27 district, and such number of members at large as
28 may be fixed by the committee, to be elected at
29 the state convention.

30 The members of the state committee shall, in
31 January following their election, meet and organize
32 by the choice of a chairman, a secretary, a treasurer
33 and such other officers as they may decide to elect.
34 The state committee shall not be limited in the
35 choice of officers to its own membership but may
36 elect officers from outside its membership from
37 among the enrolled members of the same political
38 party. Such officers when so elected shall by virtue
39 of their election become members of the state com-
40 mittee and shall hold office until their successors
41 are elected and qualified. Officers elected from out-
42 side the membership of a state committee shall at
43 no time exceed three in number.

44 The secretary of the state committee shall, within

45 ten days after such organization, file with the state
46 secretary, and send to each city and town commit-
47 tee, a list of the members of the committee and of
48 its officers.

49 A vacancy in the office of chairman, secretary or
50 treasurer of the committee or in the membership
51 thereof shall be filled by the committee, and a state-
52 ment of any such change shall be filed as in the
53 case of the officers first chosen.

