

HOUSE No. 621

Accompanying the petition of Herbert W. Burr relative to the terms of office and the manner of electing the mayor and members of the city council in the city of Boston. Metropolitan Affairs. January 17.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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

AN ACT

Relative to the Term of Office and the manner of Electing the Mayor and Members of the City Council in the City of Boston.

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 1. The terms of office shall hereafter be two
2 years.

1 SECTION 2. Candidates for the city council in the city
2 of Boston shall hereafter be nominated in the manner
3 provided in chapter fifty-three of the General Laws and
4 the provisions of said chapter shall apply to the primaries
5 held in the city of Boston when not inconsistent with the
6 provisions of this act. The primaries in Boston preceding
7 the regular city election in any year shall be held on the
8 sixth Tuesday preceding the city election. At such pri-

9 maries the registered voters of the two greater political
10 parties of each ward shall nominate qualified voters of
11 such ward as delegates to conventions to be called and
12 held on the eighth day after the primaries before the city
13 election. The delegates so elected shall in such conven-
14 tion nominate a candidate for mayor and five candidates
15 at large for city council. Certificate of the nominations
16 made by such conventions shall be filed on or before the
17 twelfth day after the primaries. The provisions of law
18 in section forty-three of chapter four hundred and eighty-
19 six of the acts of nineteen hundred and nine in relation
20 to nomination papers, voting places, printing ballots, etc.,
21 shall apply to this act. At the municipal election next
22 after the passage of this act, the candidate for mayor who
23 receives the second largest vote shall be elected as acting
24 mayor and president of the city council and shall appoint
25 all committees and shall exercise all powers conferred
26 upon members of the city council.

1 SECTION 3. The names of no other candidates shall
2 appear upon the official ballot, except those regularly
3 nominated by the two majority political parties in the
4 commonwealth, but the use of stickers shall be permitted
5 according to existing law. Each majority party in con-
6 vention shall nominate one candidate for mayor and five
7 candidates for city council. The names of candidates for
8 the city council shall be grouped with political designa-
9 tion and the position on the ballot shall be drawn by lot
10 by the election commissioners of the city of Boston.

11 The group receiving the highest total number of votes
12 shall be deemed to have elected their entire group. The
13 group receiving the second highest number of votes shall
14 be deemed to have elected the three candidates who have
15 received the highest individual number of votes in their
16 group.

