

# HOUSE . . . . No. 445

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By Mr. Cameron of Amesbury, petition of Colin J. Cameron and others for legislation to abolish the enrollment of members of political parties. Election Laws.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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### AN ACT ABOLISHING THE ENROLLMENT OF MEMBERS OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

*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 enrollment of members of political  
2 parties as a prerequisite to voting at state, presidential,  
3 city or town primaries is hereby abolished.

1 SECTION 2. The names of the candidates of all  
2 political parties at state, presidential, city and town  
3 primaries shall be printed on the same ballot, but the  
4 names of candidates of each political party shall be  
5 arranged in adjoining party columns. At the head of  
6 said party columns shall be printed "official ballot of"  
7 (here shall follow the party name). At the top of the  
8 ballot, extending the entire length, shall be printed  
9 the words "vote for candidates of one party only or  
10 ballot will not be counted". The party columns shall  
11 be arranged in such order as may be determined by lot  
12 under the direction of the state secretary in state or

13 presidential primaries or the city or town clerk in city  
14 or town primaries, who shall notify each state com-  
15 mittee in state or presidential primaries or the city of  
16 town committee in city or town primaries and give a  
17 representative of such committee an opportunity to  
18 be present.

1 SECTION 3. All provisions of the laws relating to  
2 elections and primaries that are inconsistent with the  
3 provisions of this act are hereby repealed.