

HOUSE No. 2090

By Mr. Parsons of Marblehead, petition of Everett R. Campbell and others (selectmen of Marblehead) for legislation to further regulate the holding of town meetings. Towns.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REGULATING THE HOLDING OF TOWN MEETINGS.

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. Section 10 of chapter 39 of the Gen-
2 eral Laws is hereby amended by inserting after the
3 third sentence of said section the following:—The
4 town meeting may be held in not more than two
5 places in the same building provided that the two
6 places are connected together by means of a public
7 address system, and loud speakers so that the pro-
8 ceedings in both places may be heard and partici-
9 pated in by all the voters present in both places.

1 SECTION 2. Section 14 of chapter 39 of the Gen-
2 eral Laws is hereby amended by adding at the end
3 thereof the following new paragraph:—

4 If as provided for in section ten of chapter thirty-
5 nine a town meeting is held in separate places equipped
6 with a public address system and loud speaker facili-
7 ties in the same building, the moderator may appoint

8 a deputy moderator to preside at the meeting at
9 which the moderator does not preside. The deputy
10 moderator shall have all the powers vested by law
11 in the moderator to preside at and regulate the pro-
12 ceedings in the meeting at which he presides except
13 that he shall not recognize any citizen desiring to
14 address the meeting except after first obtaining per-
15 mission of the moderator.

1 SECTION 3. Section 15 of chapter 41 of the Gen-
2 eral Laws is hereby amended by inserting after the
3 first sentence thereof the following:— If the town
4 meeting is held in two places in the same building as
5 provided for in section ten of chapter thirty-nine the
6 town clerk shall appoint a deputy town clerk to re-
7 cord all votes and other actions taken at the meeting
8 at which the town clerk does not record the pro-
9 ceedings and votes.