

HOUSE No. 2242

By Mr. Bernashe of Chicopee (by request), petition of William H. Baker for bi-partisan municipal primaries and elections in the city of Chicopee. Cities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR BI-PARTISAN MUNICIPAL PRIMARIES AND ELECTIONS IN THE CITY OF CHICOPEE.

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

SECTION 1. Beginning with the year nineteen hundred and sixty-one, municipal elections in the city of Chicopee shall be conducted on a bi-partisan basis. The two leading political parties shall hold a party primary on the third Tuesday preceding the regular municipal election, and at said primary each party shall place in nomination a candidate for each office to be filled at such election. Each candidate shall be an enrolled member of the party whose nomination he seeks, and shall file with his nomination papers a certificate of party enrollment. Each candidate shall file nomination papers signed by at least fifty registered voters of said city who are enrolled members of the party whose nomination he seeks or who are unenrolled in any party. The provisions of general law relating to the conduct of primaries and elections shall apply to a primary or election held under the provisions of this act.

SECTION 2. So much of the charter and revised ordinances of said city, and of the amendments thereof and additions thereto as is inconsistent with this act, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This act shall be submitted to the registered voters of the city of Chicopee at the municipal election held in the year nineteen fifty-nine in said city of Chicopee in the form

4 of the following question to be printed on the official ballot to be
5 used at said election: "Shall an act passed by the general court
6 in the year nineteen fifty-nine, entitled 'An Act providing for
7 bi-partisan municipal primaries and elections in the city of
8 Chicopee' be accepted?" If a majority of the votes in answer
9 to said question is in the affirmative, then this act shall there-
10 upon take effect, but not otherwise.