

SENATE No. 293

To accompany the petition of James G. Moran for an amendment of the law relative to the election of delegates to the national conventions of political parties. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the Election of Delegates to the National Conventions 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 sixty-eight of chapter fifty-three of the
2 General Laws is hereby amended by striking out
3 in said section sixty-eight the following "but
4 no such statement of preference by any candidate
5 for delegate shall appear upon the ballot unless
6 such candidate for nomination for president files
7 his written assent thereto with the state secretary
8 on or before five o'clock in the afternoon of the
9 last day for filing nomination papers. Such
10 assent may be communicated by telegraph.", —
11 so that said section shall read as follows:—
12 *Section 68.* The state secretary shall cause to be
13 placed on the official ballot for use in primaries
14 at which delegates to national conventions of
15 political parties are elected, under separate head-

16 ings, and in the following order, the names of
17 candidates for delegates at large, alternate dele-
18 gates at large, district delegates, and alternate
19 district delegates. The names of candidates
20 appearing in nomination papers containing nomi-
21 nations for all the places to be filled shall be
22 placed first on said ballot, arranged in groups
23 and in the same order as in the nomination
24 papers. The order in which the groups shall
25 appear shall be determined by lot in the manner
26 provided in section thirty-four. The names of
27 candidates appearing in nomination papers con-
28 taining nominations for less than all the places
29 to be filled shall follow, alphabetically arranged.
30 The ballot shall also contain a statement of the
31 preference, if any, of each candidate for delegate
32 as to a candidate for nomination for president,
33 provided that such statement appears in his
34 nomination papers. Upon the receipt of the
35 records of votes cast at presidential primaries,
36 the city or town clerk shall forthwith canvass
37 the same and make return thereof to the state
38 secretary, who shall forthwith canvass such
39 returns, determine the results thereof, and notify
40 the successful candidates.

