

HOUSE No. 1828

By Mr. Coltun of Chelsea, petition of Charle H. McGlue for preventing the opening of ballot boxes in towns during voting hours. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO PREVENT THE OPENING OF BALLOT BOXES IN TOWNS DURING VOTING HOURS.

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

1 The fourth paragraph of section 105 of chapter 54
2 of the General Laws, which reads as follows:— “In
3 towns, except in town elections where members of
4 boards or officers are to be elected under the provisions
5 of chapter fifty-four A, the ballot box at any polling
6 place may be opened and ballots taken therefrom for
7 counting when all the selectmen and the town clerk,
8 or, where the moderator is in charge of the election,
9 the moderator and the town clerk, or all the election
10 officers at the voting precinct shall so order. When the
11 ballots have been thus removed the presiding officer
12 shall select from the election officers an equal number
13 from each of the two leading political parties, who
14 shall canvass such ballots, in accordance with this

15 section; but no announcement of the result of such
16 canvass shall be made by any election officer until
17 the total result of the canvass of ballots has been
18 ascertained.”, — is hereby amended by striking out
19 this entire paragraph of said section.