

# SENATE . . . . No. 129

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To accompany the petition of Charles J. Innes for legislation relative to the arrangement of names of candidates for renomination in certain primaries. Election Laws.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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### AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ARRANGEMENT OF NAMES OF CANDIDATES FOR RENOMINATION IN CERTAIN PRIMARIES.

*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 first paragraph of section 34 of chapter 53 of  
2 the General Laws, as appearing in section 9 of chap-  
3 ter 473 of the acts of 1938, is hereby amended by in-  
4 serting after the word "order", in line 15, the follow-  
5 ing:— ; provided, that the names of elected incum-  
6 bents who are candidates for renomination shall not  
7 be placed first, in alphabetical order, on the ballot of  
8 any party of which such candidates are not enrolled  
9 members,— so as to read as follows:— *Section 34.*  
10 At the top of each ballot shall be printed the words  
11 "Official ballot of the (here shall follow the party  
12 name)". On the back of each ballot when folded  
13 shall be printed the same words, followed by the num-  
14 ber of the precinct and ward or the name of the town  
15 for which the ballot is prepared, the date of the pri-

16 mary and for state or presidential primaries a fac-  
17 simile of the signature of the state secretary and for  
18 city or town primaries a facsimile of the signature of  
19 the city or town clerk. Names of candidates for each  
20 elective office shall be arranged alphabetically ac-  
21 cording to their surnames except that names of can-  
22 didates for renomination to state offices of which they  
23 are the elected incumbents shall be placed first, in  
24 alphabetical order, and the names of other candidates  
25 shall follow, in like order; provided, that the names  
26 of elected incumbents who are candidates for renom-  
27 ination shall not be placed first, in alphabetical order,  
28 on the ballot of any party of which such candidates  
29 are not enrolled members. Names of candidates for  
30 state committees shall be arranged in accordance with  
31 the provisions of section seventeen A.