

HOUSE No. 325

By Mr. Stanley E. Johnson of Worcester, petition of Robert J. O'Keefe and another relative to the recount of ballots cast in an election by proportional representation or preferential voting. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE RECOUNT OF BALLOTS CAST IN AN ELECTION BY PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION OR PREFERENTIAL VOTING.

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

1 Chapter 54A of the General Laws is hereby amended by
2 striking out section 12 and inserting in place thereof the fol-
3 lowing new section:—
4 *Section 12.* Partial or complete recounts of the ballots
5 cast for any body or office in an election by proportional
6 representation or by preferential voting shall take place in
7 the manner provided in sections one hundred and thirty-four
8 to one hundred and thirty-seven, inclusive, of chapter fifty-
9 four, except that any such petition shall be submitted within
10 twenty-four hours of the public announcement by the direc-
11 tor of the count of the result of the vote for such body or
12 office, shall be on a form approved and furnished by the city
13 or town clerk, shall be signed by at least one of the last two
14 candidates declared to be defeated for such body or office,
15 shall be signed in a town or in a city, except Boston, by fifty
16 or more registered voters, and in Boston by two hundred
17 and fifty registered voters, and except that any such recount
18 in any city or town divided into recounts shall be concluded

19 for the entire city or town instead of for specified precincts,
 20 and except that such recount shall take place immediately
 21 upon the filing of a proper petition therefor; provided, how-
 22 ever that no such recount shall take place unless the last
 23 candidate for such body or office declared defeated received
 24 at least ninety-five per cent of the number of votes received
 25 by the last candidate therefor who was declared elected.

The Municipality of Passaic

In the Year of the Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Six

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared _____, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this _____ day of _____, 1956.

Notary Public in and for the State of New Jersey