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By Mr. Locke, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 517) of Edward King for legislation to provide for pre-primary conventions of political parties upon vote of the state committee. Election Laws.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Five.

### AN ACT PROVIDING FOR PRE-PRIMARY CONVENTIONS OF POLITICAL PARTIES UPON VOTE OF THE STATE COMMITTEE.

*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 1. Section 9 of chapter 52 of the General Laws, as  
2 amended by section 1 of chapter 429 of the Acts of 1973, is  
3 hereby amended by adding at the end the following two sen-  
4 tences: —

5 The state committee shall fix the number of delegates to the  
6 state convention in accordance with section fifty-four of chap-  
7 ter fifty-three, to be chosen by the ward and town commit-  
8 tees. Upon the choice of delegates to the state convention the  
9 chairman of the ward or town committee, as the case may be,  
10 shall notify in writing, not later than the first Wednesday  
11 in May, to the chairman of the state committee of the re-  
12 spective party, who shall thereupon issue proper certificates  
13 to the person so chosen.

1 SECTION 2. The first sentence of section 2 of chapter 53 of  
2 the General Laws, as most recently amended by section 1A  
3 of chapter 429 of the Acts of 1973, is hereby amended by in-  
4 serting after the word "provides", in line 3, the words "and  
5 except as provided in section fifty-four".

1 SECTION 3. The second sentence of section 5 of chapter 53  
2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding at the end,  
3 as appearing in section 2 of chapter 429 of the acts of 1973,  
4 the words: — except that the secretary of a political party  
5 convention held for the purpose of endorsing candidates for

6 nomination shall file such certificate within ten days of the  
7 termination of the convention, and shall within the same time  
8 so file a separate certificate listing for each office candidates  
9 who did not receive the convention endorsement for that of-  
10 fice, but who did receive at least twenty per cent of the vote  
11 cast on any ballot for that office at said convention.

1 SECTION 4. The first paragraph of section 34 of chapter 53  
2 of the General Laws, as appearing in section 3 of chapter 429  
3 of the acts of 1973, is hereby amended by adding at the end  
4 the following sentences: — Names of candidates to be voted  
5 for by all the voters of the commonwealth, endorsed for nomi-  
6 nation by a state convention, shall be placed first. Next in or-  
7 der the names of candidates for such offices of which they are  
8 the elected incumbents and next the names of all other candi-  
9 dates for such offices in alphabetical order.

1 SECTION 5. The first sentence of the second paragraph of  
2 said section 34 of said chapter 53 is hereby amended by in-  
3 serting after the word “all” in the first line, the word “other”

1 SECTION 6. The sixth paragraph of section 34 of said chap-  
2 ter 53 is hereby amended by inserting after the word “nomi-  
3 nation” in line 3, as appearing in section 3 of chapter 429 of the  
4 acts of 1973, the following: —

5 or, if endorsed for nomination by a state convention, the  
6 statement, “Endorsed by (name of political party) convention,  
7 together with the eight word statement authorized by section  
8 forty-five,

1 SECTION 7. The seventh paragraph of said section 34, as so  
2 appearing, is amended by inserting after the word “ballot” in  
3 line two, the words: —

4 endorsed for nomination by state conventions

1 SECTION 8. Section 44 of chapter 53 of the General Laws is  
2 hereby amended by striking out the first two sentences, as ap-  
3 pearing in section 4 of chapter 429 of the acts of 1973, and in-  
4 serting in place thereof the following: —

5 The nomination of candidates for nomination at state pri-  
6 maries shall be by nomination papers or by endorsement for  
7 nominations by state convention as provided in section fifty-  
8 four. In the case of offices to be filled by all the voters of the  
9 commonwealth, nomination papers shall, except as hereinaf-  
10 ter provided, be signed in the aggregate by at least ten thou-  
11 sand voters; nomination papers in the case of a candidate for  
12 any such office who received at least twenty-per cent of the  
13 vote on any ballot for nomination for such office at the state  
14 convention held immediately prior to the state primary shall  
15 be signed in the aggregate by at least twenty-five hundred vot-  
16 ers.

1 SECTION 9. Chapter fifty three of the General Laws is here-  
2 by amended by inserting after section 53, the three following  
3 sections: —

4 PROVISIONS APPLYING TO PRE-PRIMARY  
5 CONVENTIONS

6 § 54. State conventions of political parties

7 The chairman of the state committee of a political party  
8 shall issue a call on or before the first Wednesday in April to  
9 hold a state convention, to be held not earlier than June fifth  
10 and not later than June twenty-seventh, in a year in which a  
11 biennial state election is held, for the purpose of adopting a  
12 platform and endorsing for nomination candidates for offices  
13 to be filled by all the voters of the commonwealth, to be voted  
14 for at the ensuing state primary, and for such other purposes  
15 consistent with law as the convention may determine. If said  
16 chairman fails to issue a call on or before the first Wednesday  
17 in April for the holding of such convention, ten voters enrolled  
18 in the party may petition the superior court to compel the  
19 chairman to issue said call. Such convention shall consist of  
20 delegates chosen by the ward and town committees, and the  
21 state committee members from each senatorial district. The  
22 number of delegates shall be one from each ward and town,  
23 one additional for every one thousand votes or major fraction  
24 thereof cast at the preceding biennial state election, in such  
25 ward or town, for the respective party's candidate for gov-

26 error, and said state committee members. Each delegate  
27 chosen by the ward and town committees shall be chosen from  
28 the enrolled members of the party resident in the ward or  
29 town from which he is chosen. The chairman of each such  
30 ward or town committee desiring representation at such con-  
31 vention shall, within fourteen days after a meeting duly called  
32 in writing for the purpose of selecting a delegate or delegates,  
33 notify the respective city committee, in the case of a city, or  
34 the state committee, in the case of a town, but in no case shall  
35 such notice be given not later than the first Wednesday in May.  
36 Except as hereinafter provided, no vacancy among the dele-  
37 gates chosen by the ward and town committees shall be filled.  
38 Any such vacancy caused by death or removal from the com-  
39 monwealth may be filled by vote of the ward or town commit-  
40 tee at a meeting duly called for the purpose; provided, that  
41 notice of the filling of such vacancy is given in writing to the  
42 chairman of the state committee of the appropriate political  
43 party not less than fourteen days prior to the date appointed  
44 for the opening of such convention. Said chairman shall there-  
45 upon issue a proper certificate to any person so chosen. Noth-  
46 ing herein contained shall affect or diminish the operation of  
47 the laws relating to state primaries contained in sections forty-  
48 one to fifty-three A, inclusive.

49 § 54C. Certificates of nomination of candidates endorsed by  
50 state convention; written acceptances, etc.

51 Every certificate of nomination of candidates endorsed for  
52 nomination by a state convention shall state that the nominee  
53 has been endorsed for nomination at such convention and shall  
54 include such facts as are required by section eight. Every cer-  
55 tificate listing candidates at such convention who received at  
56 least twenty per cent of the vote of the convention on any bal-  
57 lot shall also include such facts. Such certificates shall be  
58 signed, sworn to and filed as required by section five.

59 Each such candidate shall, within ten days from the day  
60 when the convention terminates, file with the state secretary  
61 his written acceptance of the nomination, otherwise his name  
62 shall not be printed on the ballot as a candidate for the office  
63 to which he was nominated, and he may add the eight-word  
64 statement authorized by section forty-five. Such candidate

65 may not withdraw such acceptance.

66 § 54D. Pre-primary conventions; procedure; officers; penal-  
67 ties.

68 Delegates shall be seated in groups by senatorial districts as  
69 determined by the state committee. The convention shall be  
70 called to order by the chairman or acting chairman of the state  
71 committee, or in the absence of either, then by a person des-  
72 ignated in such manner as the rules of the party shall pre-  
73 scribe. The person who calls the convention to order shall  
74 preside until the election of a permanent chairman. He shall  
75 appoint a temporary secretary to receive the roll of the con-  
76 vention and a monitor from each group who shall receive the  
77 credentials of delegates and present them to the temporary  
78 secretary.

79 The convention shall not proceed to the election of a perma-  
80 nent chairman or transact any business until the time fixed  
81 for the opening thereof, nor until a majority of the delegates  
82 named in the official roll shall be present. It shall then elect  
83 from among its delegates a permanent chairman and a perma-  
84 nent secretary, neither of whom shall be an officer of the state  
85 committee, and shall complete its organization. It shall make  
86 suitable rules for the conduct of its business, the order of  
87 which shall follow the purposes of the convention as stated in  
88 section fifty-four. The permanent secretary shall keep the rec-  
89 ords of the convention and transmit the same to the state sec-  
90 retary who shall retain them for a period of one year.

91 The permanent chairman and permanent secretary shall be  
92 chosen upon a call of the official roll. Committees of the con-  
93 vention shall be appointed by the convention, or by the perma-  
94 nent chairman, as the convention may order. When the vote  
95 of the convention is taken upon the election, nomination or en-  
96 dorsement for nomination of any candidate, the roll of the del-  
97 egates shall be called and each delegate when his name is called  
98 shall arise in his place and announce his choice, except that  
99 when there is only one candidate to be voted for, the roll need  
100 not be called, and except also that the monitor of a group, un-  
101 less a member of the group objects, may announce the vote  
102 of such group.

103 A delegate to a pre-primary convention who corruptly re-  
104 quests or accepts a gift or gratuity under an agreement or with  
105 an understanding that his vote shall be given for any particu-  
106 lar candidate or any person who offers such a gift or gratuity  
107 with such understanding or agreement shall be punished by  
108 a fine of not more than five hundred dollars or by imprison-  
109 ment for not more than thirty days or both.

SECRET

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1881  
The following is a list of the names of the persons who were members of the  
Society of Friends in the year 1881. The names are arranged in alphabetical order.  
The names of the members who have since died are marked with a cross.  
The names of the members who have since been added are marked with an asterisk.  
The names of the members who have since been removed are marked with a dagger.  
The names of the members who have since been restored are marked with a double dagger.