
By Mr. Beck of Chelsea, petition of John E. Beck that authority be given for the assignment of state police officers to polling places during elections. Election Laws. Dec. 26, 1923.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-Four.

An Act authorizing the Assignment of State Police Officers to Polling Places during Elections.

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 two of chapter one hundred and forty-
2 seven of the General Laws, as amended by chapter
3 one hundred and sixty-four of the acts of nineteen
4 hundred and twenty-one, is hereby further amended
5 by adding at the end thereof the following:— The
6 commissioner may detail any state police officer to
7 attend the polling places in any city or town during
8 an election, upon request of the mayor or selectmen
9 of such city or town, or if in his opinion there is
10 reasonable cause to believe the election laws will be
11 violated,— so as to read as follows: *Section 2.* All
12 officers and inspectors of the department shall have
13 and exercise throughout the commonwealth the
14 powers of constables, police officers and watchmen,
15 except as to service of civil process. The governor
16 may command their services in suppressing riots
17 and in preserving the peace. The commissioner
18 may detail any officer or inspector in the division of

19 inspection or in the division of fire prevention for
20 temporary service in the division of state police.
21 The commissioner, with the approval of the gov-
22 ernor, may authorize the officers and inspectors of
23 the department to carry badges, revolvers, clubs,
24 handcuffs and twisters, or such other articles as
25 may be required in the performance of their duties.
26 The commissioner may detail any state police officer
27 to attend the polling places in any city or town
28 during an election, upon request of the mayor or
29 selectmen of such city or town, or if in his opinion
30 there is reasonable cause to believe the election laws
31 will be violated.