

HOUSE No. 1733

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 14, 1938.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the Bill providing for state wide verification of voting lists (House, No. 1632), report that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting therefor the accompanying bill (House, No. 1733).

For the committee,

WILLIAM B. BAKER.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Eight.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR STATE WIDE VERIFICATION OF VOTING LISTS.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would
2 tend to defeat its purpose, therefore it is hereby
3 declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the
4 immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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. The registrars of voters or officers
2 under special laws performing like duties in each
3 city and town, hereafter in this act called registrars,
4 shall in the year nineteen hundred and thirty-eight
5 verify and certify the lists as required by section five
6 of this act, and for this purpose may appoint such
7 temporary assistant registrars in the current year
8 as may be necessary.

1 SECTION 2. The state secretary shall, at the ex-
2 pense of the commonwealth, furnish to the registrars
3 of each city and town such filing or other equipment
4 and such number of registration forms or cards, here-
5 inafter called cards, as may be necessary to carry out
6 the provisions of this act. Such cards shall be known
7 as registration record cards and shall be of such size

8 and form as the state secretary may determine, and
9 shall have printed thereon the schedule as provided in
10 the general register under the provisions of section
11 thirty-six of chapter fifty-one of the General Laws,
12 together with the following: —

13 Sex.

14 The city or town where last previously registered,
15 if any.

16 Date of birth.

17 Height.

18 Father's name in full.

19 Mother's maiden name in full.

20 Such cards containing all facts required by the
21 foregoing shall be signed by each voter whose name
22 appears on the nineteen hundred and thirty-seven
23 voting list revised as required under section three of
24 this act and by each applicant for registration in the
25 current year and thereafter. Such cards shall be
26 used at polling places for the purpose of identification
27 of voters after January first, nineteen hundred and
28 forty. The signature on such card of the applicant
29 for registration or the voter shall be made under the
30 penalties of perjury and in the presence of a registrar,
31 or assistant registrar, who shall affix his name thereto.

1 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of sec-
2 tion thirty-seven of chapter fifty-one of the General
3 Laws or contrary provisions of any special law the
4 registrars shall during the month of April in the cur-
5 rent year revise the annual register as provided in
6 said section and use said revised register for the pur-
7 poses of verifying the voting list as provided in this
8 act.

1 SECTION 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of sec-
2 tions five and six of chapter fifty-one of the General
3 Laws or contrary provisions of any special law the
4 lists required by said sections to be transmitted by
5 the assessors or listing boards to the registrars shall
6 in the current year be transmitted prior to April first.

1 SECTION 5. Upon the completion of the verifica-
2 tion of the voting list in the current year and in no
3 event later than December first the registrars shall
4 file with the mayor in cities or the selectmen in towns,
5 as the case may be, the following certificate: —

6 We, the registrars of voters or election commis-
7 sioners in the city/town of _____ do hereby
8 certify that we have verified the list of registered
9 voters in the city/town, as required by chapter
10 _____ of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty-
11 eight, as of October nineteenth, nineteen hundred
12 and thirty-eight.

1 SECTION 6. On January first, nineteen hundred
2 and forty the registrars shall revise the general
3 register and the annual register compiled under sec-
4 tion thirty-seven of chapter fifty-one of the General
5 Laws as affected by section two of this act and take
6 therefrom the names of all persons who have not
7 signed the registration record cards as provided in
8 this act.