

HOUSE No. 243.

[Bill accompanying the petition of Edwin J. Mills for legislation relative to the nomination of senators and representatives and the election of members of the state committee in the county of Bristol. Election Laws. January 21.]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Two.

AN ACT

Relative to the Nomination and Election of Senators, Representatives and Members of State Committees in Bristol County.

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. Nomination papers for senator, repre-
2 sentative or member of the state committees for each of
3 the Bristol senatorial or representative districts, to be
4 nominated or elected by a political party, shall be signed
5 by at least five registered voters of each ward or of each
6 town in the district who shall be members of the politi-
7 cal party holding the caucus; and said papers shall be
8 filed by the candidate or his representative with the city

9 or town committee of the city or town in which the cau-
10 cus or caucuses are to be held at least sixty hours previ-
11 ous to the time appointed for holding said caucus.

12 Such candidate for senator or representative shall be
13 nominated and such member shall be elected by direct
14 plurality vote in the caucuses of the party held in every
15 such ward and town, and the person or persons who, in
16 the aggregate of all the ballots cast at all the caucuses in
17 each district for such candidate for senator or such candi-
18 date for representative, shall receive the highest number
19 of votes cast shall be the candidate or candidates nomi-
20 nated; and the person who, in the aggregate of all the
21 ballots cast at all such caucuses in each district for such
22 member, shall receive the highest number of such votes
23 shall be the member elected. The nomination paper of
24 a candidate for member of a state committee shall state
25 the street and number, if any, of his residence.

1 SECTION 2. It shall be the duty of the clerks of the
2 several caucuses in the several wards or towns which
3 constitute a senatorial or representative district to make
4 returns as hereinafter provided. For the purpose of
5 making said returns, the clerks of the several caucuses
6 held in each district shall constitute several canvassing
7 boards in their various districts. Said board shall meet
8 in their various districts, first giving the various candi-
9 dates for senator, representative and state committeeman
10 notice as to the time and place of such meeting, to tabu-
11 late and determine the results of all such ballots and re-
12 turns on or before twelve o'clock midnight of the Monday
13 preceding the day on which certificates of nomination for
14 senator or representative are required by law to be filed
15 with the secretary of the Commonwealth; and the can-
16 vassing board of each district shall certify to the facts
17 required by law in certificates of nomination for senator

18 or representative, and shall file such certificates with the
19 secretary of the Commonwealth on or before the Thurs-
20 day provided by law for filing such certificates of nomina-
21 tion. Said boards shall furnish to the members elected
22 as aforesaid certificates of their election, and shall send
23 to the secretary of the state committee of each political
24 party holding such caucuses the names and residences
25 of such members. The secretary of the Commonwealth
26 shall place on the official ballots to be used at State
27 elections the names of all candidates for senator and
28 representative nominated as aforesaid.

1 SECTION 3. All provisions of law relating to the
2 preparation of nomination papers and ballots, to cau-
3 cuses and elections, to ballots cast at caucuses and elec-
4 tions, to recounts of such ballots, and to certificates of
5 nomination of candidates for senator and representative
6 shall, so far as they are applicable and not inconsistent
7 with this act, apply to the caucuses aforesaid, the ballots
8 cast thereat, the returns relating to such ballots, the re-
9 counts of such ballots, and the certificates of nomina-
10 tion made as aforesaid.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

