

# HOUSE . . . . No. 936

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Bill accompanying the petition of Squire E. Putney for legislation relative to the participation of minority political parties in primaries under the direct nominations act. Election Laws. January 16.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twelve.

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### AN ACT

Relative to the Direct Nomination Act as affecting Minority Political Parties.

*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. Chapter five hundred and fifty of the acts  
2 of the year nineteen hundred and eleven shall not apply  
3 in any year to a political party which received less than  
4 ten per centum of the entire vote cast for governor at  
5 the next preceding state election, unless the state com-  
6 mittee of such political party notifies the secretary of the  
7 commonwealth on or before the first day of August that  
8 such political party desires to take part in the primaries.  
9 Failure to send such notification as above specified shall  
10 compel such political party to come under the provisions  
11 of chapter five hundred and sixty of the acts of the year  
12 nineteen hundred and seven, and amendments thereto,  
13 for that year.

1 SECTION 2. Whenever and wherever a primary is held  
2 within the commonwealth under the provisions of chap-  
3 ter five hundred and fifty of the acts of the year nineteen  
4 hundred and eleven and amendments thereto, for the  
5 nomination of a candidate or candidates to be voted for  
6 at a special election to fill a vacancy or vacancies, for  
7 which ballots are furnished by the secretary of the com-  
8 monwealth, he need not furnish blank primary ballots  
9 for the use of members of any political party which re-  
10 ceived less than ten per centum of the entire vote cast  
11 within the commonwealth for governor at the next pre-  
12 ceding state election: *provided*, that the state committee  
13 of such political party informs the secretary of the com-  
14 monwealth in writing at least three weeks preceding such  
15 primary that such political party does not desire or  
16 intend to participate in said primary. The filing of such  
17 information by such political party shall automatically  
18 entitle such political party to come under the provisions  
19 of chapter five hundred and sixty of the acts of the year  
20 nineteen hundred and seven, and amendments thereto,  
21 for said special election.

1 SECTION 3. All acts and parts of acts in so far as in-  
2 consistent herewith are hereby repealed.

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