

SENATE No. 127

To accompany the petition of Timothy J. Donoghue and others that the secrecy of the Australian ballot be extended to blind and other physically disabled voters. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixteen.

AN ACT

To extend the Secrecy of the Australian Ballot to Blind and other Physically Disabled Voters.

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 two hundred and ninety-
2 four of chapter eight hundred and thirty-five
3 of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and
4 thirteen is hereby amended by striking out all
5 after the word "by", in the seventh line thereof,
6 and inserting in place thereof the following:—
7 any competent person whom the said voter may
8 designate, — so the same shall read as follows:—
9 *Section 294.* A voter who declares on oath to the
10 presiding officer that he had the right to vote on
11 the first day of May, in the year eighteen hundred

12 and fifty-seven and cannot read, or that from
 13 blindness or other physical disability he is unable
 14 to prepare his ballot or register his vote upon a
 15 voting machine shall be assisted in such marking
 16 or registering by any competent person whom the
 17 said voter may designate.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its
 2 passage.

