
By Mr. McGlennon of Concord, petition of John A. S. McGlennon that citizens who have resided within the Commonwealth for six months and within a city or town for three months be permitted to vote. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Seven.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR VOTING BY CITIZENS WHO HAVE RESIDED WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH FOR SIX MONTHS, AND WITHIN THE CITY OR TOWN IN WHICH THE RIGHT TO VOTE IS CLAIMED FOR THREE MONTHS.

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 1 of chapter 51 of the General Laws, as
2 most recently amended by section 3 of chapter 160 of the
3 acts of 1963, is hereby further amended by striking out the
4 first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following
5 paragraph:—

6 Except as otherwise provided in section one A, every
7 citizen twenty-one years of age or older, not being a pauper
8 or person under guardianship and not being temporarily or
9 permanently disqualified by law because of corrupt prac-
10 tices in respect to elections, who can read the constitution of
11 the commonwealth in English and write his name, and who
12 has resided in the commonwealth six months and in the city
13 or town where he claims the right to vote three months last
14 preceding a state, city or town election, and who has com-
15 plied with the requirements of this chapter, may have his
16 name entered on the list of voters in such city or town, and
17 may vote therein at any such election or, except in so far as
18 restricted in any town in which a representative town
19 meeting form of government has been established, in any

20 meeting held for the transaction of town affairs. No other
21 person shall have his name entered upon the list of voters or
22 have the right to vote; except that no person who is
23 prevented from reading or writing as aforesaid by a physical
24 disability, shall, if otherwise qualified, be deprived of the
25 right to vote by reason of not being able so to read or write;
26 and no veteran, if otherwise qualified to vote, shall be
27 disqualified therefrom on account of receiving or having
28 received aid from any city or town, and no person otherwise
29 qualified to vote for national or state officers shall, by reason
30 of a change of residence within the commonwealth, be
31 disqualified from voting for such officers in the city or town
32 from which he has removed his residence until the expiration
33 of three months from such removal. A married woman
34 dwelling or having her home separate and apart from her
35 husband shall for the purpose of voting and registration
36 therefor be deemed to reside at the place where she dwells or
37 has her home.

1 SECTION 2. Section 1A of said chapter 51, as inserted by
2 section 3 of chapter 437 of the acts of 1962, is hereby
3 amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in
4 place thereof the following paragraph:—

5 A person who has resided in the commonwealth less than
6 six months, but who will have resided therein and in the city
7 or town where he claims the right to vote not less than
8 thirty-two days last preceding an election at which electors
9 of president and vice-president are to be chosen may be
10 qualified for voting only for such electors as such election;
11 provided, he makes application therefor as hereinafter re-
12 quired and otherwise complies with the requirements of this
13 chapter.

1 SECTION 3. Section 9 of said chapter 51, as most recently
2 amended by section 7 of chapter 440 of the acts of 1938, is
3 hereby further amended by striking out the first sentence and
4 inserting in place thereof the following sentence:—A person
5 who becomes a resident of a city or town, except one as to
6 which it is otherwise provided by special law, after January
7 first and desires to be registered as a voter shall present to

8 the registrars a sworn statement that he became a resident
9 therein at least three months preceding the election at which
10 he claims the right to vote.

1 SECTION 4. Said chapter 51 is hereby further amended by
2 striking out section 43, as most recently amended by section
3 16 of chapter 440 of the acts of 1938, and inserting in place
4 thereof the following section:—

5 *Section 43.* Every male applicant for registration, except in
6 any city or town as to which it is otherwise provided by
7 special law, whose name has not been listed by the registrars
8 as provided in section four, may present a tax bill or notice
9 from the collector of taxes, or a certificate from the assessors
10 showing that he was assessed as a resident of the city or town
11 on January first preceding, or a certificate that he became a
12 resident therein at least three months preceding the election
13 at which he claims the right to vote, and the same shall be
14 prima facie evidence of his residence.

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the war. It is followed by a detailed account of the operations of the various departments and the work done during the year. The report concludes with a summary of the results achieved and a statement of the resources available for the coming year.

The operations of the various departments have been carried out in accordance with the programme of work laid down in the budget. The results achieved have been generally satisfactory and it is hoped that the resources available for the coming year will be sufficient to enable the work to be carried out in a more efficient manner.

The following table shows the results of the operations of the various departments during the year. It will be seen that the results have generally been in accordance with the programme of work laid down in the budget.

Department	Actual	Budget
Administration	100	100
Education	120	120
Health	150	150
Justice	180	180
Labour	200	200
Local Government	250	250
Public Works	300	300
Revenue	400	400
Transport	450	450
War	500	500
Total	2000	2000

The results of the operations of the various departments during the year have generally been in accordance with the programme of work laid down in the budget. It is hoped that the resources available for the coming year will be sufficient to enable the work to be carried out in a more efficient manner.