

By Mr. Serlin of Boston, petition of I. Edward Serlin that provision be made for the holding of primaries and elections on Sunday. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-One.

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT PRIMARIES AND ELECTIONS SHALL BE HELD ON SUNDAY.

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 39 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 23C the following new
3 section: —

4 *Section 23D.* Notwithstanding the provisions of any general
5 or special law to the contrary, the election of town officers
6 shall take place on a Sunday.

1 SECTION 2. Section 15 of chapter 43 of the General Laws,
2 as most recently amended by section 3 of chapter 640 of the
3 acts of 1941, is hereby further amended by striking out in the
4 fifth and sixth lines thereof the word "Tuesday" and inserting
5 in place thereof the word: — Sunday; by striking out in the
6 tenth line the word "Tuesday" and inserting in place thereof
7 the word: — Sunday; by striking out in the fifteenth line the
8 word "Tuesday" and inserting in place thereof the word: —
9 Sunday; by striking out in the eighteenth line the word
10 "Tuesday" and inserting in place thereof the word: — Sunday;
11 by striking out in the twenty-third line the word "Tuesday"
12 and inserting in place thereof the word: — Sunday.

1 SECTION 3. Section 16A of said chapter 43, as inserted by
2 section 6 of chapter 448 of the acts of 1959, is hereby
3 amended by striking out the word "Tuesday" in the fifth line
4 and inserting in place thereof the word: — Sunday.

1 SECTION 4. Section 44A of said chapter 43, as most re-
2 cently amended by section 13 of chapter 448 of the acts of
3 1959, is hereby further amended by striking out in lines ten
4 and eleven the word "Tuesday" and by inserting in place
5 thereof the word: — Sunday.

1 SECTION 5. Section 46 of said chapter 43, as most recently
2 amended by section 9 of chapter 451 of the acts of 1939, is
3 hereby further amended by adding thereto the following sen-
4 tence: — All elections under this plan shall be held on a
5 Sunday.

1 SECTION 6. Section 79 of said chapter 43, as most recently
2 amended by section 8 of chapter 459 of the acts of 1948, is
3 hereby further amended by adding at the end thereof the
4 following sentence: — All elections under said plan shall be held
5 on a Sunday.

1 SECTION 7. Section 93 of said chapter 43, as inserted by
2 section 15 of chapter 378 of the acts of 1938, is hereby
3 amended by adding at the end thereof the following sen-
4 tence: — All elections under this plan shall be held on a
5 Sunday.

1 SECTION 8. Section 28 of chapter 53 of the General Laws
2 is hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph, as most
3 recently amended by section 3 of chapter 762 of the acts of
4 1968, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: —
5 State primaries shall be held on the seventh Sunday pre-
6 ceding biennial state elections and on the fourth Sunday
7 preceding special state elections, except that primaries before
8 special congressional elections shall be held on the fifth Sunday
9 preceding said elections. Presidential primaries shall be held on
10 the last Sunday in April in any year in which presidential
11 electors are to be elected. City and town primaries before all
12 city and town elections shall be held on the Sunday nearest the
13 twenty-eighth day preceding such elections.

1 SECTION 9. Section 48 of said chapter 53, as most recently
2 amended by chapter 66 of the acts of 1966, is hereby further
3 amended by striking out the first three sentences and inserting
4 in place thereof the following three sentences: —

5 Nomination papers of candidates to be voted on at presi-
6 dential primaries shall be filed with the state secretary on or
7 before the eighth Sunday preceding the day of the primaries.
8 Nomination papers of candidates to be voted on at state
9 primaries shall be filed with the state secretary on or before
10 the eighth Sunday preceding the day of the primaries, except
11 that such nomination papers of candidates for nomination for
12 any office to be filled by all the voters of the commonwealth,
13 or for congressman, shall be so filed on or before the seventh
14 Sunday preceding the day of the primaries. In the case of
15 primaries before special elections, such nomination papers shall
16 be filed on or before the third Sunday preceding the day of
17 the primaries.

1 SECTION 10. Section 71 of said chapter 53, as appearing in
2 the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at
3 the end thereof the following sentence: — Such caucuses shall
4 be held on a Sunday.

1 SECTION 11. Section 91 of said chapter 53, as appearing in
2 the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby amended by adding at the
3 end thereof the following sentence: — All such caucuses shall
4 be held on a Sunday.

1 SECTION 12. Section 118 of said chapter 53, as appearing
2 in the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby amended by adding
3 thereto the following sentence: — All such caucuses shall be
4 held on a Sunday.

1 SECTION 13. Section 62 of chapter 54 of the General
2 Laws, as most recently amended by section 5 of chapter 257
3 of the acts of 1935, is hereby further amended by striking out
4 in line six thereof the word "Tuesday" and inserting in place
5 thereof the word: — Sunday.

The first part of the report is devoted to a general description of the work done during the year. It is followed by a detailed account of the various projects undertaken, and a summary of the results obtained. The report concludes with a list of references and a statement of the author's acknowledgments.

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