

such cancellation, revocation or reclassification. He may likewise dispose of or destroy applications for certificates, permits or licenses which have been denied or dismissed after the expiration of five years from the date of such denial or dismissal.

*Approved March 6, 1957.*

**Chap.166** AN ACT REGULATING THE OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES ON ONE-WAY STREETS APPROACHING AN INTERSECTION FOR A LEFT TURN.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

Section 14 of chapter 90 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the last sentence, as appearing in chapter 324 of the acts of 1948, and inserting in place thereof the following two sentences: — When approaching for a left turn on a two-way street, an operator shall do so in the lane of traffic to the right of and nearest to the center line of the roadway and the left turn shall be made by passing to the right of the center line of the entering way where it enters the intersection from his left. When approaching for a left turn on a one-way street, an operator shall do so in the lane of traffic nearest to the left-hand side of the roadway and as close as practicable to the left-hand curb or edge of roadway.

*Approved March 6, 1957.*

**Chap.167** AN ACT ESTABLISHING IN THE TOWN OF PALMER REPRESENTATIVE TOWN GOVERNMENT BY LIMITED TOWN MEETINGS.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. There is hereby established in the town of Palmer the form of representative town government by limited town meetings hereinafter set forth.

SECTION 2. Upon the acceptance of this act by the town, the selectmen shall divide the territory of the town into seven voting precincts, as nearly equal as possible. Precincts shall be plainly designated and so established as to consist of compact and contiguous territory, and shall be bounded so far as possible by the center line of highways or by other well defined limits.

SECTION 3. The representative town meeting membership in each precinct shall consist of the largest number divisible by three which will permit a representation of one town meeting member for each fifty registered voters or major fraction thereof as nearly as may be.

SECTION 4. The registered voters in each precinct shall at the first annual town election held after the acceptance of this act, and those in any precinct affected by a revision of precincts at the first annual town election following such revision, shall elect by ballot the number of registered voters provided for in section three as town meeting members. The town clerk shall after every election of town meeting members, forthwith notify each such member by mail of his election.

SECTION 5. The first third of the members so elected in each precinct, in the order of number of votes received, shall serve for three years, the second third for two years, and the remaining third for one year from the day of the annual town meeting. In case of a tie vote affecting the division into thirds, the members elected from the precinct shall determine the same by ballot. Thereafter, except as otherwise provided herein, the registered voters of each precinct shall, in like manner, at each annual town election elect for the term of three years one third of the number to which the precinct is entitled, and shall fill for the unexpired term any vacancy then existing in the number of town meeting members in the precinct.

SECTION 6. The boundaries of precincts shall be reviewed, and if need be wholly or partially revised by the selectmen prior to the twentieth day of November in every fifth year after the acceptance of this act or prior to the same date in any year when so directed by vote of a representative town meeting held not later than the twentieth day of August.

SECTION 7. The selectmen shall, within thirty days after the establishment or revision of any precinct, file a report of their action with the town clerk, the registrars of voters and the assessors, with a map or description of the precincts and the names and residences of the registered voters therein. They also shall cause to be posted in the town office and at least one public place in each precinct a map or description of each precinct as established or revised from time to time, with the names and residences of the registered voters therein.

SECTION 8. The division of the town into precincts and any revision of precincts shall take effect upon the date of filing of the report by the selectmen with the town clerk. Whenever precincts are established or revised the town clerk forthwith shall give written notice thereof to the state secretary, stating the number and designation of the precincts. The terms of office of the town meeting members from any precinct which is so revised shall cease upon the election of their successors.

SECTION 9. Meetings of the registered voters of the several precincts for elections, for primaries, and for voting upon any question to be submitted to all the voters of the town, shall be held on the same day and at the same hour and at such place or places within the town as the selectmen shall in the warrant for such meeting direct. The election of town meeting members shall be held in conformity with the laws relating to elections, and the provisions of chapters fifty to fifty-six, inclusive, of the General Laws, relating to precinct voting at elections, shall apply to all elections and primaries in the town so far as the same are not inconsistent with this act.

SECTION 10. Any representative town meeting held in the town shall be limited to the elected town meeting members.

SECTION 11. The town clerk shall notify town meeting members of the time and place at which town meetings are to be held, the notices to be sent by mail at least seven days before the meeting. The town meeting members shall be the judges of the election and qualifications of their members. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for doing business. A lesser number may organize temporarily and may adjourn from time to time, but a meeting shall not adjourn over the date of an election of town meeting members. The town meeting members shall receive no compensation. All town meetings shall be public. Subject to such conditions as may be determined from time to time by the members of the representative town meeting, any registered voter of the town who is not a town meeting member may speak at any meeting but shall not vote.

SECTION 12. A town meeting member may resign by filing a written resignation with the town clerk, effective upon the date of filing. A member who removes from the town shall cease to be a member, and a member who removes from the precinct from which he was elected may serve only until the next annual town meeting.

SECTION 13. The nomination of candidates for town meeting members shall be made by nomination papers which shall be signed by not less than ten voters of the precinct in which the candidate resides, and shall be filed with the town clerk at last ten days before the election. However, any town meeting member may become a candidate for re-election by giving written notice to the town clerk at least thirty days before the election, and to the name of a candidate for re-election may be added the words "candidate for re-election". Nomination papers shall bear no political designation and shall not be valid for any candidate whose written acceptance is not endorsed thereon or attached thereto when filed.

SECTION 14. The articles in the warrant for every town meeting, so far as they relate to the election of the moderator, town officers and town meeting members, and to referenda and all matters to be acted upon and determined by ballot, shall be acted upon and determined by the registered voters of the town in their respective precincts. All other articles in the warrant shall be acted upon and determined exclusively by town meeting members at a meeting to be held at such time and place as shall be set forth by the selectmen in the warrant for the meeting, subject to referendum as hereinafter provided.

SECTION 15. A moderator shall be elected by ballot at each annual town meeting, and shall serve at all town meetings, except as otherwise provided by law, until a successor is elected and qualified. The nomination and election of a moderator shall be the same as for other elective town officers, and any vacancy in the office may be filled by the town meeting members at a meeting held for that purpose. If the moderator is absent, a moderator pro tempore may be elected by the town meeting members.

SECTION 16. A vacancy in the full number of town meeting members from any precinct, arising from any cause, may be filled until the next annual election by the remaining town meeting members of the precinct from among the registered voters of such precinct. Upon petition, signed by not less than ten town meeting members from the precinct, the town clerk shall give notice of any vacancy to the remaining members from the precinct. He shall call a special meeting of such members for the purpose of filling the vacancy, and shall give five days' notice by mail to every such member, specifying the object, time and place of the meeting.

SECTION 17. A majority of the members of such meeting shall constitute a quorum, and they shall elect from their own number a chairman and a clerk. The vote shall be by ballot, and a majority of the votes cast shall be required for a choice. The chairman and clerk shall count the ballots, make a certificate of the choice and file the same with the town clerk, together with a written acceptance by the person chosen. Such person shall thereupon be deemed to be elected as a town meeting member.

SECTION 18. The following votes of a representative town meeting shall not be operative until after the expiration of five days, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, after the adjournment of the meeting: — (a) authorizing the expenditure of twenty thousand dollars or more as a special appropriation; (b) establishing a new board or office; (c) abolishing an old board or office; (d) merging two or more boards or offices; (e) fixing the term of office of town officers where such term is optional; (f) increasing or reducing the number of members of a board; (g) adopting a new by-law; (h) amending or repealing an existing by-law.

SECTION 19. If within said five days a petition signed by not less than three per cent of the registered voters of the town is filed with the selectmen asking that any question involved in such a vote be submitted to the voters of the town at large, then the selectmen after the expiration of five days shall call a special meeting for the sole purpose of presenting the question to the registered voters at large. The polls shall be opened not later than two o'clock in the afternoon and closed not earlier than eight o'clock in the evening. The votes shall be taken by ballot and the check list shall be used in the same manner as in the election of town officers.

SECTION 20. The questions submitted shall be determined by a majority vote of the registered voters of the town voting thereon, but no action of the representative town meeting shall be reversed unless at least twenty per cent of the registered voters shall so vote. Each question shall be placed upon the official ballot in the following form: — "Shall the town vote to approve the action of the representative town meeting whereby it was voted (brief description of the substance of the vote)?" If such petition is not filed within said period of five days, the vote of the representative town

meeting shall become operative and effective upon the expiration of that period.

SECTION 21. The town of Palmer, after the acceptance of this act, shall have the capacity to act through and to be bound by its town meeting members, who when convened from time to time shall constitute representative town meetings. The representative town meetings shall have and may exercise exclusively all powers vested in the municipal corporation, so far as will conform to the provisions of this act. Action taken by any representative town meeting in conformity with all provisions of law now or hereafter applicable to the transaction of town affairs in town meetings, shall have the same force and effect as if such action had been taken in a town meeting open to all the voters of the town as organized and conducted before the establishment of representative town meeting government.

SECTION 22. This act shall not abridge the right of the inhabitants of the town to hold general meetings, as secured to them by the constitution of the commonwealth, nor confer upon any representative town meeting the power finally to commit the town to any measure affecting its municipal existence or substantially changing its form of government without action thereon by the voters of the town at large, using the ballot and check list therefor.

SECTION 23. This act shall be submitted to the registered voters of the town of Palmer for acceptance at the annual town meeting in the year nineteen hundred and fifty-eight. The vote shall be taken by ballot in precincts in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws, so far as the same shall be applicable. The question to be placed upon the official ballot to be used for the election of town officers shall be: — "Shall an act passed by the general court in the year nineteen hundred and fifty-seven, entitled 'An Act establishing in the town of Palmer representative town government by limited town meetings', be accepted by this town?"

SECTION 24. If this act is rejected by the registered voters of the town when first submitted, it may again be submitted for acceptance in like manner from time to time at any annual town meeting within five years thereafter.

SECTION 25. This act shall take effect upon its acceptance by a majority of the voters voting thereon for all purposes incidental to the next annual town election in the town, and it shall take full effect beginning with said election.

*Approved March 6, 1957.*

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**Chap. 168** AN ACT REGULATING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS FOR HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY BY HOUSING AUTHORITIES.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

Chapter 121 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 26VV, as amended by chapter 466 of the acts of 1956, and inserting in place thereof the following section: — *Section 26VV.* The commonwealth, acting by