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By Mr. Brennan, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 389) of John A. Brennan, Jr., and Gerard D'Amico for legislation relative to the election of state committees. Election Laws.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-one.

### AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ELECTION OF STATE COMMITTEES.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 52 of the General Laws is hereby amended by strik-  
2 ing out section 1, as most recently amended by section 1 of  
3 chapter 546 of the acts of 1977, and inserting in place thereof  
4 the following section: —

5 *Section 1.* Each political party shall elect from among its  
6 enrolled members a state committee. Each state committee  
7 shall consist of two men and two women from each state sena-  
8 torial district, who shall be residents thereof, to be elected by  
9 the members of town and ward committees as hereinafter pro-  
10 vided, and such additional members for such terms and on such  
11 conditions as may be designated by the charter of the party  
12 or appointed by the state committee. State committee mem-  
13 bers elected by town and ward committees shall be elected  
14 every two years, in even-numbered years, through meetings  
15 that assure full, timely and equal opportunity to participate.  
16 The method of voting for state committee members by the  
17 members of the ward and town committees shall be appor-  
18 tioned on the basis of a formula giving equal weight to party  
19 registration and to the average vote for party candidates in  
20 the last general election for the offices of governor and Presi-  
21 dent of the United States, pursuant to plans developed and  
22 published by the state committee of the party. Members of  
23 the state committee elected by town and ward committee  
24 members shall hold office for a period of two years, from the  
25 day following the state primary election to the day of the  
26 next state primary election. Members of the state committee

27 may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the entire member-  
28 ship of the state committee by such procedures and for such  
29 reasons as the party may adopt at a state convention; pro-  
30 vided, however, that such procedures guarantee adequate no-  
31 tice and due process of law. Vacancies in the membership  
32 of the committee shall be filled by the same process as that  
33 used for election.

34 The members of the state committee elected by the town  
35 and ward committee members shall within ten days after the  
36 thirtieth day next following their taking office, meet and  
37 organize by the choice of a chairperson, treasurer, secretary  
38 and such other officers as they may decide to elect; provided,  
39 however, that the members of the committee shall first meet  
40 and organize temporarily by the choice of a temporary chair-  
41 person and a temporary secretary are chosen, and such com-  
42 mittee, while temporarily organized or at any time after its  
43 permanent organization, may add to its members in accord-  
44 ance with the provisions of its bylaws or the party's charter.

45 The secretary of the state committee shall file with the  
46 state secretary, and send to each city and town committee,  
47 within ten days after such permanent organization, a list of  
48 the members of the state committee and of its officers, and,  
49 within ten days after each addition to or change in its mem-  
50 bership made subsequent to its permanent organization, a list  
51 of the members so added or changed.

52 A vacancy in the office of chairman, secretary or treasurer  
53 of the state committee shall be filled by said committee and  
54 a statement of any such change shall be filed as in the case of  
55 the officers first chosen.