

By Mr. Businger of Brookline, petition of John A. Businger for legislation to provide that primaries and elections be held on Sundays. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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

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 amend-
2 ed by inserting after section 23C the following new section: —
3 Section 23D. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or
4 special law to the contrary, the election of town officers shall take
5 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 acts
3 of 1941, is hereby further amended by striking out in the fifth and
4 sixth lines thereof the word "Tuesday" and inserting in place
5 thereof the word: — Sunday; by striking out in the tenth line the
6 word "Tuesday" and inserting in place thereof the word: —
7 Sunday; by striking out in the fifteenth line the word "Tuesday"
8 and inserting in place thereof the word: — Sunday; by striking
9 out in the eighteenth line the word "Tuesday" and inserting in
10 place thereof the word: — Sunday; by striking out in the twenty-
11 third line the word "Tuesday" and inserting in place thereof the
12 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 amended
3 by striking out the word "Tuesday" in the fifth line and inserting
4 in place thereof the word: — Sunday.

1 SECTION 4. Section 44A of said chapter 43, as most recently
2 amended by section 13 of chapter 448 of the acts of 1959, is hereby
3 further amended by striking out in lines ten and eleven the word
4 “Tuesday” and by inserting in place 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 hereby
3 further amended by adding thereto the following sentence: — All
4 elections under this plan shall be held on a 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 hereby
3 further amended by adding at the end thereof the following
4 sentence: — All elections under said plan shall be held on a
5 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 amended
3 by adding at the end thereof the following sentence: — All
4 elections under this plan shall be held on a Sunday.

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

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

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

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

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

