

HOUSE No. 2160

By Mr. Howarth of Springfield, petition of Frederick Whitney and others relative to the holding of state political party conventions. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO STATE POLITICAL PARTY CONVENTIONS.

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 adding the
2 following section: —

3 *Section 11.* A political party may hold a state political conven-
4 tion called pursuant to rules promulgated by the state committee
5 of the party. Said convention shall be held in the second quarter of
6 each year in which the citizens of the Commonwealth elect a
7 governor.

8 The purpose of the Convention shall be to nominate candidates
9 for all statewide offices to appear on the State Primary Ballot of
10 said party.

11 Any candidate winning the endorsement of the elected delegates
12 to this convention shall appear on the Primary Ballot of the party
13 by virtue of this victory. Any candidates not receiving the Conven-
14 tion endorsement but who receive 15% or better of the delegate
15 votes on any ballot shall be authorized to have his or her name
16 appear on the State Primary ballot by filing 10,000 signatures from
17 voters enrolled in his party or unenrolled voters.

18 Candidates not seeking Convention endorsement or those who
19 receive less than 15% of the Convention delegate votes shall be
20 required to file 15,000 signatures from unenrolled voters or voters
21 of Ballot.

