

By Mr. Lapointe of Chicopee, petition of Francis C. Lapointe that provision be made for absentee voter registration. Election Laws.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ABSENTEE VOTER REGISTRATION.**

*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 51 of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by inserting after section 42B the following  
3 section: —

4 *Section 42C. Absentee Voter Registration.*

5 Any person claiming to have the qualification for voting in  
6 any city or town who, by reason of temporary absence from  
7 such city or town from the time he applies under this section  
8 until the close of registration prior to the upcoming primary or  
9 election, may, by so stating in writing, receive from the  
10 registrars of such city or town an application for absentee voter  
11 registration. The registrars shall, upon receipt of a request in  
12 writing stating temporary absence until the close of registration  
13 prior to the next upcoming primary or election send to the  
14 applicant an application for absentee voter registration worded  
15 substantially as follows: —

16 To the Registrars of Voters or Election Commissioners of the  
17 City or Town of \_\_\_\_\_, I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
(name)

18 hereby make application for registration as a voter. I do  
19 solemnly swear (affirm) that I am a resident of the City or  
20 Town of \_\_\_\_\_, that I live at \_\_\_\_\_;  
(street and number)

21 that I was born on \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_;  
(city & state or foreign country)

22 that I am a citizen of the United States; that I am not a person

23 under guardianship and am not temporarily or permanently  
24 disqualified from voting by law because of corrupt practices in  
25 respect to elections.

26 \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

27 \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of applicant)

28 Subscribed and sworn (affirmed) to before me by the above  
29 affiant, personally known to me, or identified to my satis-  
30 faction, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_ in the city or  
31 town of \_\_\_\_\_,  
32 state or country of \_\_\_\_\_

33 Name \_\_\_\_\_

34 Residence \_\_\_\_\_

35 Basis of Authority for Administering Oath \_\_\_\_\_

36 A card for indicating party enrollment shall also be sent to the  
37 applicant.

38 Upon receipt of said application for registration the name of  
39 the applicant shall be entered into the general register along  
40 with his party designation if any, and a notice so informing  
41 him shall be sent out or his application will be refused and a  
42 notice indicating the reason for refusal shall be sent to him. In  
43 order for the registration to be valid for the next preceding  
44 election or primary the application must be received by the  
45 registrars of voters or the board of elections by the last day for  
46 registration for that election. If it is not received in time and  
47 the application is otherwise valid the registration shall be valid  
48 following the next upcoming primary or election and the voter  
49 shall be so notified.

1 SECTION 2. Section 42 of chapter 51 of the General Laws  
2 is hereby amended by inserting after the words "section  
3 forty-two A" in the first section the words "and section  
4 forty-two C."