

# SENATE . . . . No. 82

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To accompany the petition of Asa T. Newhall for legislation relative to the assessment and registration of voters. Election Laws.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twelve.

### AN ACT

Relative to Assessment and Registration of Voters.

*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. Section fifteen of chapter five hun-  
2 dred and sixty of the acts of the year nineteen  
3 hundred and seven, as amended by chapter three  
4 hundred and forty-four of the acts of the year nine-  
5 teen hundred and nine, is hereby amended by insert-  
6 ing after the word "informed," in the twenty-  
7 fourth line, the words:—before the close of regis-  
8 tration, — so that the said section, as amended, shall  
9 read as follows:—*Section 15.* The assessors, as-  
10 sistant assessors, or one or more of them, shall  
11 annually, in May or June, visit every building in  
12 their respective cities and towns and, after diligent  
13 inquiry, shall make true lists containing, as nearly  
14 as they can ascertain, the name, age, occupation and

15 residence, on the first day of May in the current  
16 year, and the residence on the first day of May in  
17 the preceding year, of every male person twenty  
18 years of age or upwards, residing in their re-  
19 spective cities and towns, liable to be assessed for  
20 a poll tax; and, except in Boston, shall inquire at  
21 the residences of the women voters whose names are  
22 contained in the list transmitted to them by the  
23 registrars under the provisions of section forty-four  
24 whether such women voters are residents thereat,  
25 and shall thereupon make true lists of the women  
26 voters found by them.

27 Any inmate of the soldiers' home in the city of  
28 Chelsea shall have the same right as any other  
29 resident of that city to be assessed and to vote  
30 therein.

31 The assessors shall, upon the personal applica-  
32 tion of an assessed person for the correction of any  
33 error in their original lists, and whenever informed  
34 of any such error, make due investigation, and,  
35 upon proof thereof, correct the same on their books.  
36 When informed before the close of registration of  
37 the omission of the name of a person who is averred  
38 to have lived in the city or town on the first day of  
39 May in the current year, and to have been assessed  
40 there in the preceding year, they shall make due  
41 investigation, and, upon proof thereof, supply the  
42 omission on their books. They shall cause all ap-  
43 plications, certificates and affidavits received by  
44 them under this section to be preserved for two  
45 years.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its  
2 passage.