

SENATE No. 339

By Mr. Jajuga, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 339) of James P. Jajuga and Kevin L. Finnegan for legislation to provide for a unified ballot of the candidates of each of the political parties at primary elections. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO PRIMARIES.

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. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or
2 special law to the contrary, at a primary as defined in section one
3 of chapter fifty of the General Laws, the secretary of state, or city
4 or town clerk when applicable, shall provide, in addition to ballots
5 required by the General Laws, a unified ballot containing the
6 names of the candidates of each of the political parties arranged
7 alphabetically according to surname.

8 Said ballots shall be printed on paper of a color different from
9 that used for party ballots. At least three facsimile copies of said
10 unified ballot shall be provided at each polling place as specimen
11 ballots.

1 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or
2 special law to the contrary, a person who is a registered voter but
3 not enrolled in a political party may at the polling place of such
4 voter's precinct at a primary as defined in section one of
5 chapter fifty of the General Laws request and upon such request
6 shall be given a unified ballot as provided for in section one of
7 this act for the purpose of casting votes in said primary.

1 SECTION 3. The secretary of state shall promulgate rules and
2 regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

