

Substituted by the House, on motion of Mr. Bassett of Lynn, for a bill with the same title (House, No. 5882). September 6.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REGULATING THE TRANSMISSION OF PUNCH CARD BALLOTS TO TABULATION CENTERS.

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 33F of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in section 5 of chapter 564 of the acts of 1967, is hereby
3 amended by inserting after the first sentence the following
4 sentence:— Said tabulation center may be located in any
5 municipality within the commonwealth provided that said center is
6 of no greater distance than fifty miles from the municipality
7 conducting said primary, preliminary election or election.

1 SECTION 2. The sixth paragraph of section 105A of chapter
2 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in section 14 of chapter 564 of
3 the acts of 1967, is hereby amended by inserting after the letter "F"
4 in line 5 the words:— If located within said municipality.

1 SECTION 3. Said paragraph of said section of said chapter as
2 so appearing is hereby further amended by striking out the fourth
3 and fifth sentences and inserting in place thereof the following
4 sentences:— If the tabulation center is located outside said
5 municipality, the container from each precinct shall be brought by
6 the presiding officer, precinct clerk, and a police officer to the city
7 or town clerk's office where said container shall be transported to
8 the tabulation center only after all of the containers have arrived at
9 said clerk's office. Upon arrival at the city or town clerk's office
10 each presiding officer shall transfer possession of the key to his
11 container to said clerk. Transportation of the containers to a
12 tabulation center outside said municipality shall be in vehicles
13 designated by said clerk and owned by the municipality conducting

14 the election. The containers shall be loaded for transportation to
15 said tabulation center in full view of the public. The unloading of
16 the containers at said tabulation center shall be done in the
17 presence of the election officers appointed under section 33H. The
18 vehicle transporting said containers outside said municipality shall
19 be accompanied by the city or town clerk or his designee and a
20 police escort at all times during transportation to the tabulation
21 center and said containers shall not be opened at any time during
22 their transportation from the precincts to the city or town clerk's
23 office and then to the tabulation center.

1 SECTION 4. Said section 105A of said chapter 54, as so
2 appearing in section 14 of chapter 564 of the acts of 1967, is hereby
3 amended by inserting after the sixth paragraph the following
4 paragraph:—

5 The counted ballots, both absentee and other, shall be sealed in
6 separate envelopes and shall be transmitted, in accordance with the
7 provisions of section one hundred and seven, to the office of the
8 city or town clerk, forthwith. The voting lists shall also be sealed in
9 separate envelopes and transmitted to the office of the city or town
10 clerk.