

By Mr. Businger of Brookline, petition of John A. Businger and John E. Murphy, Jr., relative to the recording of name changes for street listings and for voting purposes. Election Laws.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE RECORDING OF NAME CHANGES FOR STREET LISTING AND VOTING PURPOSES.

*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 2 of chapter 51 of the General Laws is  
2 hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in  
3 place thereof the following paragraph: —

4 *Section 2.* A registered voter who chooses to adopt a new name  
5 shall continue to be registered in his former name until June first of  
6 the following year; provided, however, if such voter appears in  
7 person or makes written application prior to the close of  
8 registration for any preliminary, primary, or election to notify the  
9 registrars of such adoption of a new name, the registrars shall  
10 correct the current annual register so that such voter shall be  
11 registered in his new name.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter 51 is hereby amended by striking out  
2 section 4 and inserting in place thereof the following section: —

3 *Section 4.* Registrars, assistant registrars, or boards having  
4 similar duties under any special or general law, or one or more of  
5 them, shall annually in January or February visit or communicate  
6 with the residents of every building in their respective cities and  
7 towns, and, after diligent inquiry, shall make true lists containing,  
8 as nearly as they can ascertain, the age or date of birth, occupation,  
9 nationality if not a citizen of the United States, name and residence  
10 on January first in the preceding year and in the current year, of

11 every person seventeen years of age or older, residing in their  
12 respective cities and towns.

13 The registrars shall, if a listed person appears in person or makes  
14 written application to notify them of the adoption of a new name  
15 or a change of the place of residence, correct their lists in  
16 accordance with such facts.