

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, petition of Francis L. Marini, Bradley H. Jones, Jr., Mary S. Rogeness, Paul K. Frost, Paul J. P. Loscocco and George N. Peterson, Jr., relative to voting procedures of presidential electors. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and One.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE VOTING PROCEDURES OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

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 8 of chapter 53 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 inserting the following sentence after "electors" in line 15:— One
4 presidential elector shall be chosen from each congressional dis-
5 trict, and two presidential electors shall be chosen at large.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in
2 the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out
3 section 148, and inserting in place thereof the following
4 section:—

5 Section 148. The persons chosen as presidential electors shall
6 meet at the state house on the date fixed by federal law next
7 following their election at three o'clock in the afternoon and orga-
8 nize by the choice of a president officer and secretary. The state
9 secretary shall call the meeting to order, call the roll of electors,
10 and preside until a presiding officer shall be chosen. The secretary
11 of the electors shall keep a journal of their proceedings and
12 deposit the same in the office of the state secretary, where it shall
13 be recorded and filed. Each at-large presidential elector shall cast
14 his or her ballot for the presidential and vice-presidential candi-
15 dates whose electors received the highest number of votes in the
16 state. Each congressional district presidential elector shall cast his

17 or her ballot for the presidential and vice-presidential candidates
18 whose electors received the highest number of votes in his or her
19 congressional district.