

By Mr. Koczera of New Bedford, petition of Robert M. Koczera, Jay R. Kaufman and J. James Marzilli, Jr., for legislation to require primary candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor to be nominated in groups. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PRIMARY ELECTION OF THE GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

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 34 of chapter 53 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 1994 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:—

4 The surnames of candidates for governor and lieutenant gov-
5 ernor shall be placed upon the state primary ballot in groups,
6 Christian names, residential addresses, and the eight-word state-
7 ment provided by section forty-five, shall not be added. A voter
8 shall vote for such candidates in the manner provided by the last
9 sentence of section seventy-eight of chapter fifty-four. The group
10 in which appears the name of an incumbent governor shall be
11 placed first, and the remaining groups shall follow in alphabetical
12 order of the surnames of the candidates for governor.

1 SECTION 2. Section 45 of said chapter 53, as so appearing, is
2 hereby amended by striking out the fourth paragraph and inserting
3 in place thereof the following paragraph:—

4 A state primary nomination paper for governor or lieutenant
5 governor shall contain the names of candidates for both such
6 offices. Otherwise, no nomination paper for use in the nomination
7 of candidates to be voted for at state primaries shall contain the
8 name of more than one candidate.

1 SECTION 3. Section 48 of said chapter 53, as so appearing is
2 hereby amended by striking the words governor, lieutenant gov-
3 ernor in line 14 and inserting in place thereof the words:—
4 governor and lieutenant governor as a group.

1 SECTION 4. Section 43A of chapter 54, as so appearing, is
2 hereby amended by striking out the words “at a state election” in
3 line 5.

1 SECTION 5. Chapter 55 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 5B.

1 SECTION 5C. Candidates campaigning as a team for the
2 offices of governor and lieutenant governor in the primary and
3 general election, may organize a joint committee which shall have
4 all the powers and duties of a political committee under the provi-
5 sions of this chapter.