

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1883

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 20, 1938.

The committee on Election Laws, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1257) of Carl B. Clancy and Mason Sears for legislation relative to election of members of state committees of political parties, report the accompanying bill (House, No. 1883).

For the committee,

HIRAM N. DEARBORN.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-Eight.

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ENDORSEMENT BY CONVENTIONS  
OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO STATE COMMITTEES  
OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter fifty-three of the General Laws, as ap-  
2 pearing in the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby  
3 amended by inserting after section seventeen the  
4 following new section seventeen A under the head-  
5 ing: — ENDORSEMENT FOR NOMINATION OF MEMBERS  
6 OF STATE POLITICAL COMMITTEES BY CONVENTIONS.

7 *Section 17A.* Upon the filing of a petition with  
8 the chairman of the state committee of a political  
9 party, signed by fifty enrolled members of such  
10 party within a senatorial district, such chairman shall  
11 call a convention of the ward and town committees  
12 of said senatorial district for the purpose of endorsing  
13 candidates from among the enrolled members of the  
14 party for nomination for membership on the state  
15 committee from said senatorial district.

16 Said convention shall be held not later than ten  
17 days prior to the time provided for the filing of nom-  
18 ination papers for said office, and shall be held in  
19 the ward or town within the senatorial district which  
20 cast the highest vote at the preceding biennial state

21 election for the political party candidate for gov-  
22 ernor.

23 Said convention shall elect from among its mem-  
24 bers a chairman and a secretary and shall make suit-  
25 able rules for the conduct of its business. Each ward  
26 and town committee present and voting at such con-  
27 vention shall be entitled to one vote and one addi-  
28 tional vote for every fifteen hundred votes or major  
29 fraction thereof above the first fifteen hundred votes  
30 cast at the preceding biennial state election in such  
31 ward or town for the political party candidate for  
32 governor.

33 Every certificate of nomination of candidates en-  
34 dorsed for nomination by such a convention shall  
35 state the nominee has been endorsed for nomination  
36 by such convention, and shall include such facts as  
37 are required by section eight. Such certificate shall  
38 be signed, sworn to and filed as required by section  
39 five with the state secretary.

40 Each candidate endorsed by such a convention  
41 shall within ten days from the day when the con-  
42 vention terminates file with the state secretary his  
43 written acceptance of the nomination, otherwise his  
44 name shall not be printed on the ballot in the manner  
45 authorized in this section as a candidate for the office  
46 to which he was nominated. Such candidate may not  
47 withdraw such acceptance.

48 The name of any candidate endorsed as herein pro-  
49 vided shall be printed on the primary ballot before  
50 the names of other candidates for election as members  
51 to the state committee from the senatorial district  
52 from which he is a candidate, and there shall be added  
53 to the name of such candidate the words "Endorsed  
54 by Ward and Town Committees".

