

SENATE No. 287.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SENATE, April 6, 1899.

The committee on Election Laws, to whom was referred the petition of Charles H. Innes for legislation to provide for additional polling places at caucuses in certain wards of the city of Boston (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 8), report the accompanying bill.

For the Committee,

CHARLES H. INNES.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-nine.

AN ACT

To establish Two Polling Places for Caucuses in the
City of Boston.

*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. In the city of Boston, whenever
2 two hundred and fifty or more registered voters
3 of any ward, members of a political party which
4 has within a year previous cast in a caucus in
5 such ward seven hundred or more votes, shall file
6 with the board of election commissioners a writ-
7 ten request that there shall be provided for such
8 political party an additional polling place in that
9 ward, it shall be the duty of said board of election
10 commissioners to make a division of the territory
11 of such ward into two caucus districts, to be let-
12 tered A and B, and to designate, provide, prepare
13 and arrange a polling place in each of said dis-
14 tricts in accordance with the foregoing provisions
15 of said section; and thereafter all caucuses of said

16 political party in the ward shall be held in said
17 two districts in the same manner and subject to
18 the same provisions of law as now apply to a
19 single caucus in a ward.

20 All requests as herein provided shall be filed
21 with the board of election commissioners not later
22 that August first for caucuses relating to a state
23 election, and not later than October first for
24 caucuses relating to a city election. All divisions
25 of wards into caucus districts shall be made on
26 precinct lines as established at the time of the
27 division, and whenever a new division of the ter-
28 ritory of a ward is made or new precincts formed,
29 then new caucus districts as herein provided shall
30 be made to conform thereto. Whenever caucus
31 districts have been formed as herein provided, the
32 board of election commissioners shall notify the
33 city committee of the political party affected
34 thereby, and thereafter all calls for caucuses in
35 said ward, and all nomination papers shall be
36 made to apply to caucuses in the two caucus dis-
37 tricts as they now apply to one caucus in a ward.
38 The petition required by this section shall not be
39 valid unless the chairman of the ward committee
40 of the political party which desires to take advan-
41 tage of this act shall certify that the two hundred
42 and fifty petitioners are members of the political
43 party requesting such additional polling place.

1 SECTION 2. In the city of Boston in the first
2 caucus held in newly established caucus districts
3 in the district lettered A, the caucus officers last

4 chosen in the ward by the political party holding
5 the caucus, shall serve until the expiration of the
6 term of office for which they were chosen. In
7 the district lettered B, the caucus officers shall be
8 appointed by the city committee of the party
9 holding the caucus, and at said first caucus,
10 caucus officers shall be elected to hold office from
11 the first day of October succeeding their election,
12 and until their successors are elected.

1 SECTION 3. In the city of Boston each clerk
2 of a caucus shall make return to the board of elec-
3 tion commissioners of the votes cast in caucus
4 districts in the same manner as is provided for
5 making returns of the vote in the several precincts
6 at elections. Said board of election commission-
7 ers shall determine the result of the balloting, and
8 within twenty-four hours thereafter shall certify
9 the same to the president of the city committee
10 of the political party holding the caucus. The
11 president and secretary of said city committee
12 shall sign and file certificates of nomination for
13 the candidates nominated, and shall sign and
14 deliver credentials to delegates and all other per-
15 sons elected and entitled thereto, as provided in
16 sections ninety-four and one hundred and forty-
17 four of chapter five hundred and forty-eight of
18 the acts of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-
19 eight.