

HOUSE No. 257

Bill accompanying the petition of James McInerney and William L. V. Newton for legislation relative to the nomination and election of councilmen in the city of Boston. Metropolitan Affairs. January 10.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eleven.

AN ACT

Relative to the Nomination and Election of Councilmen 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 Boston there shall be elected at the
2 next municipal election, and annually thereafter, a city
3 council of twenty-seven members. The registered voters
4 of each ward, except of wards twenty and twenty-four,
5 shall elect one qualified voter of such ward as a member
6 of said city council for the term of one year, and the
7 registered voters of wards twenty and twenty-four respec-
8 tively shall elect two qualified voters of their respective
9 wards as members of said city council for the term of
10 one year. All said terms shall begin with the first
11 Monday of February following the election.

1 SECTION 2. Each member of the city council shall
2 be paid an annual salary of twelve hundred dollars.

1 SECTION 3. For the purpose of nominating candidates
2 for the city council by political parties, primaries shall be
3 held in Boston in the several precincts on the fifth
4 Thursday preceding the city election. At such prima-
5 ries the registered voters of the various political parties
6 of each ward shall nominate, by direct plurality vote in
7 each ward, candidates for the city council; and the name
8 of the person who, in the aggregate of all the votes cast
9 in such primary in each ward, receives the highest number
10 of votes, shall have his name placed on the official ballot
11 at the municipal election as a candidate of the party for
12 councilman; except that, in wards twenty and twenty-
13 four, the two persons receiving the highest number of
14 such votes in each of said wards shall have their names
15 so placed.

1 SECTION 4. Nomination papers in each year shall be
2 issued by the board of election commissioners on and
3 after but not before the day next following the state
4 election. Petitions for recounts after primaries shall be
5 filed before five o'clock in the afternoon of the second
6 day thereafter.

1 SECTION 5. Nomination by nomination papers of a
2 candidate to be voted for at such primaries shall be made
3 only by nomination papers containing the signatures of
4 not less than ten registered voters of the ward from which
5 the nomination is to be made, who shall be members of
6 the political party holding the primary.

1 SECTION 6. Nomination of a candidate for council-
2 man, otherwise than at a primary held by a political

3 party, shall be made by nomination papers containing
4 the signatures of at least one registered voter for every
5 one hundred votes cast for governor at the preceding
6 annual state election in said city, and in no case of less
7 than fifty registered voters. Such nomination papers
8 shall be signed by registered voters, and shall be season-
9 ably submitted to the board of election commissioners
10 for certification in accordance with the provisions of
11 section one hundred and seventy-three of chapter five
12 hundred and sixty of the acts of the year nineteen hun-
13 dred and seven and amendments thereto. Such nomi-
14 nation papers shall be filed with the board of election
15 commissioners on or before the eleventh day after the
16 primaries.

1 SECTION 7. Primaries for the nomination of candi-
2 dates for the city council shall be called and held in
3 accordance with the provisions of sections one hundred
4 and forty-six to one hundred and sixty, inclusive, of
5 chapter five hundred and sixty of the acts of the year
6 nineteen hundred and seven and amendments thereof,
7 except as otherwise provided herein.

1 SECTION 8. To the name of each candidate for coun-
2 cilman on the official ballot at the annual municipal
3 election shall be added the name of the street on which
4 he resides, with his street number, if any, and his party
5 or political designation.

1 SECTION 9. In case a vacancy shall occur in the city
2 council an election shall be held on such day as shall be
3 determined by the remaining members of the city council.
4 Primaries preceding a special election to fill a vacancy
5 in the city council shall be held on the third Thursday
6 preceding the day of the election.

1 SECTION 10. All provisions of law relating to nomi-
2 nations, nomination papers, election officers, voting
3 places, election apparatus and blanks, calling and con-
4 duct of primaries, caucuses and elections, manner of
5 voting at elections, counting and recounting of votes
6 at elections, records and certificates of election, shall
7 apply to the primaries, the nominations and the elections
8 provided for in this act, so far as the same are not in-
9 consistent therewith.

1 SECTION 11. All acts and parts of acts so far as in-
2 consistent with this act are hereby repealed.