

By Mr. Businger of Brookline, petition of the Citizens for Participation in Political Action (CPPAX), John A. Businger, Joseph K. Mackey, Robert A. Durand and Carmen D. Buell relative to the voter registration of persons temporarily absent from their place of residence. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Six.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE VOTER REGISTRATION OF PERSONS TEMPORARILY ABSENT FROM THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE.

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 36 of chapter 51 of the General Laws,
2 as appearing in the 1984 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the
4 following paragraph: —

5 The registrars shall prepare in sufficient quantity blank forms
6 for affidavits of registration which shall be in substantially the
7 following form:

8 AFFIDAVIT OF REGISTRATION
9 (PLEASE PRINT)

10 _____
NAME (LAST NAME FIRST)

11 _____
RESIDENCE (ADDRESS)

12 _____
CITY OR TOWN

13 _____
RESIDENCE JANUARY 1, (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)

14 LAST PREVIOUS RESIDENCE IN ANOTHER CITY OR
15 TOWN, IF ANY:

16 (Street Address) _____

17 (City or Town) _____ (State) _____ Zip _____

18 NAME YOU USED AT THIS RESIDENCE
19 (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE):

20 DATE OF BIRTH PLACE OF BIRTH U.S. CITIZENSHIP

21 _____ BIRTH _____ NATURALIZED _____

22 OCCUPATION

23 DO YOU WISH TO ENROLL IN A POLITICAL PARTY?

24 DEMOCRATIC

REPUBLICAN

25 PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

26 I hereby swear (affirm) that I am the person named above, that
27 the above information is true, that I am a citizen of the United
28 States, that I am not a person under guardianship, that I am not
29 temporarily or permanently disqualified by law from voting
30 because of corrupt practices in respect to elections, and that I
31 consider this residence to be my home.

32 Signed under the pains
33 and penalties of perjury.

34 CERTIFICATION BY REGISTRAR

35 TITLE

36 DATE

1 SECTION 2. Section 42 of said chapter 51, as so appearing,
2 is hereby amended by striking out the second sentence and
3 inserting in place thereof the following sentence: — Except as
4 provided in sections forty-two A and forty-two E, every person
5 whose name has not been entered in the annual register in
6 accordance with sections thirty-four to thirty-seven, inclusive, or
7 a corresponding provision of law applicable to a city or town
8 having a listing board, must, in order to register as a voter, appear
9 in person and make an affidavit of registration before a registrar
10 or assistant registrar.

1 SECTION 3. Said chapter 51 is hereby further amended by
2 inserting after section 42D the following section: —

3 *Section 42E.* (a) Any person who is included in the definition
4 of "Federal service personnel", as set forth in section one hundred
5 three B of chapter fifty-four, and who has the qualifications for
6 voting prescribed by the Constitution of the commonwealth, who
7 by reason of temporary absence from his residence from the time
8 he makes application under this section until after the last day
9 for registration prescribed by section twenty-six before a primary,
10 preliminary election, election, or caucus, may, by so stating in any
11 written form of communication to the registrars of voters of the
12 city of town in which the right of such resident to vote may be
13 claimed, receive a blank form for his affidavit of registration, as
14 prescribed in section thirty-six. The registrars shall, upon receipt
15 of such application, transmit to the applicant such form.

16 (b) Upon receipt of said completed and signed affidavit, the
17 registrars shall certify that they have received it, and shall date
18 the affidavit which shall be the date of registration. In order for
19 the registration to be valid for the next primary, preliminary
20 election, election, or caucus, the affidavit shall be received by the
21 registrars on or before the last day for registration before such
22 primary, preliminary election, election, or caucus, as prescribed
23 in section twenty-six. If the affidavit is received after such day,
24 the registration shall be valid following such primary, preliminary
25 election, election or caucus, and the voter shall be so notified.

26 (c) The provisions of section one hundred and three K of
27 chapter fifty-four, and of sections two, six, seven, eight, and nine
28 of chapter fifty-six, relative to penalties for offenses concerning

29 the registration of voters, shall, so far as pertinent, apply to
30 persons registering to vote under this section.

1 SECTION 4. Section 44 of said chapter 51, as so appearing,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following sentence: — The
3 provisions of this section relative to the witnessing and
4 certification of affidavits of registration shall not apply to
5 affidavits made as provided in section forty-two E.