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By Mr. Hickey of Cambridge, petition of Timothy W. Hickey that appointees to an elective office shall not be given preference in the arrangement of names on ballots used in elections. Election Laws.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy.

AM ACT PROVIDING THAT APPOINTEES TO AN ELECTIVE OFFICE SHALL NOT BE GIVEN PREFERENCE IN THE ARRANGEMENT OF NAMES ON BALLOTS USED IN ELECTIONS.

*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. The seventh paragraph of section 34 of chapter  
2 53 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by section  
3 2 of chapter 76 of the acts of 1964, is hereby further amended  
4 by striking out the second sentence, as appearing in section 1  
5 of chapter 55 of the acts of 1964, and inserting in place  
6 thereof the following sentence:—On ballots at city and town  
7 primaries, and preliminary elections, except where city char-  
8 ters provide otherwise, names of candidates for offices of  
9 which they are elected incumbents shall be placed first in  
10 alphabetical order according to their surnames, to be followed  
11 by the names of all other candidates for such office in  
12 alphabetical order.

1 SECTION 2. The second paragraph of section 42 of chapter  
2 54 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by section  
3 4 of chapter 584 of the acts of 1965, is hereby further  
4 amended by striking out the first sentence thereof, as appear-  
5 ing in section 2 of chapter 55 of the acts of 1964, and  
6 inserting in place thereof the following sentence:—Under the  
7 designation of the office, the names of candidates for each

8 municipal elective office shall, except as city charters other-  
9 wise provide, be arranged alphabetically according to their  
10 surnames, except that names of candidates for re-election to  
11 any such office of which they are the elected incumbents shall,  
12 except as provided in section thirty-three in places where  
13 voting machines are used, be placed first on the ballot in  
14 alphabetical order according to their surnames, next and in  
15 like order the names of candidates of political parties as  
16 defined in chapter fifty, and the names of all other candidates  
17 shall follow in like order.