

By Mr. McIntyre of New Bedford, petition of Joseph B. McIntyre relative to requiring polling places to be free to barriers which would impede handicapped persons. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REQUIRING POLLING PLACES TO BE FREE OF BARRIERS WHICH WOULD IMPEDE HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

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 54 of the General Laws is hereby amended by in-
2 serting after section 24 the following section: —
3 *Section 24A.* All polling places designated by the aldermen
4 or selectmen except those exempted by the Secretary of State,
5 shall be accessible to handicapped persons in accordance with
6 Section 13A of Chapter 22 of the General Laws on or before
7 January 1, 1986. All polling places shall have reserved park-
8 ing spaces for vehicles used to transport such handicapped
9 persons if the number of parking spaces in any such area is
10 twenty-five or more. The parking spaces reserved for vehicles
11 of such handicapped persons shall be clearly marked in ac-
12 cordance with section 13A of chapter 22 of the General Laws.
13 The secretary of state may exempt a polling place from the
14 provisions of this section upon certification by the registrars
15 of the city or town where said polling places are located that
16 a good faith, but unsuccessful, effort has been made to modify,
17 or change the location of, such polling places.

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FOR THE YEAR

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