

SENATE No. 143

To accompany the petition of Arthur L. Nason relative to the term of office and election of district attorneys and other elective officers. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Nineteen.

AN ACT

Relative to the Election of District Attorneys and Their Terms of Office.

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. Chapter eight hundred and thirty-
2 five of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirteen
3 is hereby amended by striking out section three
4 hundred and eighty-three and substituting the
5 following:— *Section 383.* At the annual state
6 election in the year nineteen hundred and nine-
7 teen, and in every fourth year thereafter, a district
8 attorney shall be chosen by the voters in each of
9 the districts into which the commonwealth is
10 divided for the administration of the criminal
11 law.

1 SECTION 2. Said chapter eight hundred and
2 thirty-five, as amended by section one of chap-
3 ter two hundred and fifty-five of the General Acts
4 of nineteen hundred and seventeen, is hereby
5 further amended by striking out section three
6 hundred and ninety-one and substituting the
7 following:— *Section 391.* District attorneys,
8 county commissioners, associate commissioners
9 and county treasurers shall hold their several
10 offices for terms of four years, and sheriffs, regis-
11 ters of deeds, clerks of the courts and registers of
12 probate and insolvency for terms of six years,
13 beginning with the first Wednesday of January
14 in the year succeeding their respective elections
15 and until their successors are chosen and qualified.
16 If a person elected to any of the above offices fails
17 to qualify, by reason of death, on or before the
18 said date, the office shall be filled in the manner
19 hereinbefore provided for filling a vacancy in the
20 office.