

SENATE No. 479

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jason M. Lewis, (BY REQUEST)

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act for Primary Election Reform.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Vincent Lawrence Dixon

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*60 Lake Street – Unit N Winchester, Mass.
01890*

SENATE No. 479

By Mr. Lewis (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 479) of Vincent Lawrence Dixon for legislation for Primary Election Reform. Election Laws.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 412 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act for Primary Election Reform.

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 Massachusetts General Laws are hereby amended by inserting the
2 following new chapter:

3 An Act for Primary Election Reform.

4 1.) The regular Primary Election Day for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, shall be
5 the third Tuesday of May.

6 2.) It is in the interest of public policy, and fair, informed elections, that the General
7 Election campaign be, and have the opportunity to, develop over a sustained period of
8 time.

9 3.) Therefore, the practices of many states, have Primaries before the Summer Season,
10 and General Elections in the Fall Season, and this is the intent of this legislation, hoping
11 that it
12 may increase turnout, and public engagement, in both the primaries, and general
13 elections.

14 4.) The Secretary of the Commonwealth, as the Chief Election Officer, shall have the full
15 powers to establish such needed rules, and regulations regarding all elections, as is
16 normal
17 practice, that will apply to this May Primary Election Day; including Absentee Ballots,
18 Early Voting, Mail-In, and other appropriate provisions.