

HOUSE No. 612

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Aaron Michlewitz

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 regarding Decennial division of wards and precincts in the city of Boston.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Aaron Michlewitz

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

3rd Suffolk

HOUSE No. 612

By Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 612) of Aaron Michlewitz (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the decennial division of wards and precincts in the city of Boston. Election Laws. [Local Approval Received.]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3819 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act regarding Decennial division of wards and precincts in the city of Boston.

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. Beginning in the year 2021, notwithstanding section 3 of the chapter 605 of
2 the Acts of 1982 or any other general or special law to the contrary exempting the City of Boston
3 from making a decennial division of its territory into wards as required by section 1 of chapter 54
4 of the General Laws, after each decennial federal census the City of Boston, Board of Elections
5 Commissioners may, or if the existing wards in the city do not contain, as nearly as can be
6 ascertained, an equal number of inhabitants shall, make a new division of its territory into such
7 number of wards as may be fixed by law.

8 SECTION 2. Beginning in the year 2021, notwithstanding section 2 of chapter 220 of the
9 Acts of 1921 or any other general or special law to the contrary exempting the City of Boston
10 from making a decennial division of its territory into precincts as required by sections 1 and 2 of
11 chapter 54 of the General Laws, after each decennial federal census the City of Boston, Board of
12 Elections Commissioners may, or if the existing precincts in the city do not contain, as nearly as
13 can be ascertained, an equal number of inhabitants shall, make a new division of its territory into
14 such number of precincts as required by section 2 of chapter 54 of the General Laws.

15 SECTION 3. In the year 2021 and every tenth year thereafter, the City of Boston’s Board
16 of Election Commissioners shall submit its plan for new or unrevised wards and/or precincts to
17 the City Council at least twenty-one days prior June 15, or whichever day so designated by the

18 state secretary. The City Council shall vote on such plan no later than June 15, or whichever day
19 so designated by the state secretary. After the City Council and mayor approve a new or
20 unrevised ward and/or precinct plan, the plan shall be submitted to the city clerk who shall have
21 seven days to give written notice to the state secretary of the number and designation of wards
22 and precincts in accordance with section 1 of chapter 54 of the General Laws. Final approval of
23 such plan shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in chapter 54 of the General Laws
24 pertaining to the division of cities into wards and precincts.

25 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.