

HOUSE No. 4923

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, August 22, 2024.

The committee on Election Laws, to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 423) of Edward J. Kennedy for legislation to protect elections using risk-limiting audits; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 428) of Liz Miranda, Adam Gomez, Mike Connolly and James B. Eldridge for legislation relative to voting rights; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 436) of Rebecca L. Rausch for legislation to modernize the central registry of voters; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 437) of Rebecca L. Rausch for legislation relative to early voting cost reimbursements; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 656) of Shirley B. Arriaga and others for legislation to further regulate mail in ballots; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 657) of Bruce J. Ayers for legislation to ensure that polling places are accessible to handicapped and elderly voters; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 664) of Simon Cataldo, Carmine Lawrence Gentile and Michael J. Barrett (by vote of the town) relative to ranked choice voting in the town of Concord; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 674) of Michael S. Day relative to political campaign contributions; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 675) of Vincent L. Dixon relative to the disclosure of the political party offices' campaign contributions; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 676) of Marjorie C. Decker relative to the disclosure of donations by major policy makers engaging in political activity; the joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 677) of Mindy Domb and Joanne M. Comerford (by vote of the town) relative to providing for ranked-choice voting in the city know as the town of Amherst; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 681) of Paul J. Donato relative to political designations; the joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 684) of Sean Garballey, Cindy F. Friedman and David M. Rogers (by vote of the town) relative to ranked choice voting in the town of Arlington; the

petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 694) of Russell E. Holmes relative to increasing voter registration and participation of people incarcerated for felony convictions to help prevent recidivism; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 696) of Daniel J. Hunt relative to campaign finance reform; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 697) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr. and others for legislation to establish a special commission (including members of the General Court) to investigate ways of increasing voter turnout; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 702) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf and Steven Owens relative to inactive voters and municipal census administration; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 707) of Frank A. Moran and others relative to decoupling the municipal census from voter registration; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 709) of James M. Murphy relative to providing disclosure of political phone calls and further regulating push polling, so-called; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 710) of James M. Murphy for legislation to establish a special commission (including members of the General Court) to investigate ways to increase voter participation in primary elections; the joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 714) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Joanne M. Comerford (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to ranked choice voting in the city of Northampton; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 718) of Adam Scanlon and others relative to early voting cost reimbursements for cities and towns; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 719) of William M. Straus relative to elections to fill vacancies in certain county positions; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 721) of Chynah Tyler, Mindy Domb and others relative to voting rights for convicted felons; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 724) of Erika Uyterhoeven and others for legislation to restore voting rights to incarcerated felons; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 726) of Andres X. Vargas and others relative to requiring risk-limiting election audits; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 729) of Tommy Vitolo for legislation to authorize cities and towns to postpone town meetings due to certain short-term emergencies; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 730) of Tommy Vitolo relative to mailing of early voting ballots by city and town clerks; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3721) of Vanna Howard and Rodney M. Elliott (with the approval of the city council) that the city of Lowell be authorized to fill vacancies in certain elective bodies in said city; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3974) of Danillo A. Sena and Simon Cataldo (by vote of the town) relative to

ranked choice voting in the town of Acton; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4112) of Tommy Vitolo (by vote of the town) for legislation to authorize ranked choice voting in the town of Brookline; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4223) of Michelle L. Ciccolo and Cindy F. Friedman (by vote of the town) that the town of Lexington be authorized to establish ranked choice voting for certain offices in said town, reports recommending that the accompanying order (House, No. 4923) ought to be adopted.

For the committee,

DANIEL J. RYAN

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House of Representatives, August 22, 2024.

1 *Ordered,* That the committee on Election Laws be authorized to sit during a recess of the
2 General Court to make an investigation and study of Senate documents numbered 423, 428, 436
3 and 437 and House documents numbered 656, 657, 664, 674, 675, 676, 677, 681, 684, 694, 696,
4 697, 702, 707, 709, 710, 714, 718, 719, 721, 724, 726, 729, 730, 3721, 3974, 4112 and 4223,
5 relative to voting rights, ranked choice voting, voter participation and other related matters.

6 Said committee shall report to the General Court the results of its investigation and study
7 and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry such
8 recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the Clerk of the House of Representatives
9 on or before December 31, 2024.