



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE ON
INITIATIVE PETITIONS
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133

Special Joint Committee on Initiative Petitions

Rep. Alice H. Peisch
House Chair

Sen. Cindy F. Friedman
Senate Chair

HEARING NOTICE

Date of Hearing: Tuesday, March 31, 2026

Time: 2:00 PM-4:30 PM

Location: A-2 and streamed virtual

The Joint Committee on Initiative Petitions will conduct a hearing in Room A-2, on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on ballot initiative NO. 25-12 An Act implement all-party state primaries (House, No. 5003).

The Joint Committee will hear invited testimony from experienced professionals and subject matter experts, proponents, and opponents. The public is invited to participate in this hearing. Advanced registration to present in-person oral testimony is required of anyone other than those invited. Those wishing to register to testify may do so by emailing Liz Berman at Elizabeth.Berman@masenate.gov. The deadline to register is Monday, March 30th at 12 PM. Please include your name, address, whether you support or oppose the question, and whether your testimony is on behalf of yourself or an organization. Participation will be limited as the portion of the hearing dedicated to public testimony is scheduled for 30 minutes. Chairs will limit testimony of the public to 2 minutes per speaker.

Should more people register than time can accommodate, they will be directed to submit written testimony. Written testimony may be submitted by mail to the Special Committee on Initiative Petitions at 24 Beacon Street, Room 235, Boston, MA 02133 or via email at SpecialJointCommitteeonInitiativePetitions@malegislature.gov. The deadline to submit written testimony is Saturday, April 4th at 5:00 PM.

At the discretion of the Chairs and per committee rules, written testimony received by the committee will be made publicly available. The committee may limit availability or redact testimony that includes sensitive personal information, information about minors, or information that may jeopardize the health, wellness or safety of the testifier or others.

The livestream of this hearing will be available on the Legislature's website [here](#).

You may contact Committee staff with any questions at Elizabeth.Berman@masenate.gov or Mary.Cecconi@mahouse.gov.

Bill No.	Title
H5003	An Act to implement all-party state primaries

Please be advised that the schedule and agenda are subject to change at the discretion of the chairs per Committee rules.

**Special Joint Committee on Initiative Petitions
Bill Summary**

BILL NUMBER House, No. 5003

TITLE An Act to implement all-party state primaries

HEARING DATE Tuesday, March 31, 2026, 2:00 PM to 4:30 PM

SUMMARY

SUMMARY OF NO. 25-12

This proposed law would eliminate political party primaries for state elections and instead establish a system where there would be a single, all-party primary in which all candidates, regardless of their party affiliation, would be listed on one ballot, and voters could vote for any candidate on the ballot. The two candidates receiving the most votes in the primary would advance to the general election ballot.

This proposed law would require candidates for governor and lieutenant governor to run and be listed jointly on the ballot in the primary.

This proposed law would provide political party status to any group whose candidates for any statewide office received at least 3% of the ballots cast in the state primary.