

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESENTED BY:

**Robert M. Koczera**

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*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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the joint election of the governor and lieutenant governor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Robert M. Koczera	11th Bristol
Cleon H. Turner	1st Barnstable

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 673 OF 2007-2008.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**  
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### AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE JOINT ELECTION OF THE GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

*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. Section 41A of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is  
2 hereby amended by inserting the following before the first paragraph:-

3  
4 Each candidate who shall seek a nomination for governor, under any method provided by law for such nomination,  
5 including primary elections, shall within seven days of qualifying for the primary election at the state nominating  
6 convention designate a candidate for lieutenant governor, and the names of the said candidate for governor and  
7 lieutenant governor shall be listed on the primary election ballot or otherwise considered for nomination jointly  
8 with each other. No candidate for governor may designate a candidate for lieutenant governor to contest for the  
9 said offices jointly with him without the consent of the said candidate for lieutenant governor, and no candidate  
10 for lieutenant governor may designate a candidate for governor, to contest jointly for said offices with him without  
11 the consent of the said candidate for governor, said consent to be in writing of a form provided for such purpose  
12 and filed with the Secretary of the Commonwealth. In any election, including a primary election, candidates for  
13 governor and lieutenant governor shall be listed jointly on the ballot, and a vote cast for the candidate for  
14 governor shall also be cast for lieutenant governor jointly listed on the ballot with him, and the election of  
15 governor, or the nomination of a candidate for governor, also shall constitute the election for the same term, or  
16 the nomination, of the lieutenant governor who was listed on the ballot or was being considered jointly with him.

17  
18           SECTION 2. Section 34 of chapter 53 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby  
19 amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:-

20

21 The surnames of candidates for governor and lieutenant governor shall be placed upon the state primary ballot in  
22 groups, first names, residential addresses, and the eight-word statement provided by section 45 shall not be  
23 added. A voter shall vote for such candidates in the manner provided by the last sentence of section 78 of chapter  
24 54. The group in which appears the name of the incumbent governor shall be placed first, and the remaining  
25 groups shall follow in alphabetical order of the surnames of the candidates for governor.

26

27 SECTION 3. Section 45 of said chapter 53 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby  
28 amended by striking out the fourth paragraph beginning in line 16 and inserting in place thereof the following  
29 paragraph:-

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31 A state primary nomination paper for governor or lieutenant governor shall contain the names of candidates for  
32 both such offices. Otherwise, no nomination paper for use in the nomination of candidates to be voted for at state  
33 primaries shall contain the name of more than one candidate.

34

35 SECTION 4. Section 48 of chapter 53 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, in line 14, is  
36 hereby amended by striking out the words "governor, lieutenant governor", and inserting the following:- governor  
37 and lieutenant governor as a group.

38

39 SECTION 5. Section 43A of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby  
40 amended in line 5 by striking out the words "at a state election".

41

42 SECTION 6. Chapter 55 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
43 inserting after section 5B, the following new section:-

44

45 Section 5C. Candidates campaigning as a team for the office of governor and lieutenant governor in the primary  
46 and general election may organize a joint committee which shall have all the powers and duties of a political  
47 committee under the provisions of this chapter.

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