

State Election – November 8, 2016

EARLY VOTING

For the first time in Massachusetts history, early voting was available in all cities and towns in the state. Early voting began on Monday, October 24, 2016 and ended on Friday, November 4, 2016. Early voting was available by mail as well as in person. Three voters took advantage of early voting by mail. 284 voters voted in person over the specified early voting period. Voters checked in with the Clerk, each was given a ballot and an early voting envelope. Voters voted their ballot, completed the affirmation on the envelope and inserted the ballot in the envelope and returned the ballot to the Clerk. Ballots were held in a collection envelope and at the end of each early voting session ballots were stored in a bin which was sealed each night and kept in locked storage.

The listing below shows early voting hours, numbers of votes cast and the numbered strips that were used to seal the ballot box each day. Each morning the Automark voting machine was checked to assure it was operating correctly. Test ballots were stored in a spoiled ballot envelope in the bin with the early votes.

Date	Votes Cast	Zip Strips used
October 24, 2016 8:15 am – 7 pm	38 In Person 3 Ballots were mailed	0329045 & 0329080
October 25, 2016 8:15 am – 4 pm	22 In Person	0329013 & 0329009
October 26, 2016 8:15 am – 4 pm	19 In Person	0329001 & 0329036
October 27, 2016 8:15 am – 4 pm	13 In Person	0329027 & 0329017
October 28, 2016 9 am – Noon	14 In person	0329091 & 0329029
October 29, 2016 9 am – Noon	24 In Person	0329047 & 0329020
October 31, 2016 8:15 am – 7 pm	44 In Person	0329030 & 0329019
November 1, 2016 8:15 am – 4 pm	31 In Person	0100732 & 0329081
November 2, 2016 8:15 am – 4 pm	20 In Person	0100738 & 0329098
November 3, 2016 8:15 am – 4 pm	38 In Person	0329028 & 0329066
November 4, 2016 9:00 am – Noon	21 In Person	0329076 & 0329039

After Early Voting was completed, all ballots were alphabetized and stored in the plastic bin to be processed on Election Day Nov. 8th.

ELECTION DAY

Polls opened at 7:00 a.m. on November 8, 2016 on a sunny morning. Temperatures at the time polls opened were in the mid-twenties rising to near 60 by midafternoon. Polls closed at 8:00 p.m.

Election Officers

Virginia Allis	7:00 a.m. to Midnight
Beverly Sanderson	7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Katherine Fleuriel	7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Susan Baron	7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Frederick Baron	10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Jane Grybko	7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Constance Ludlam	3:00 p.m. to Midnight
Marianne Simon	3:00 p.m. to Midnight
Jeff Derose	3:00 p.m. to Midnight
Maryann Sadoski	3:00 p.m. to Midnight
Lynn Sibley – Clerk	7:00 a.m. to Midnight
Edwin Zaniewski, Constable	7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Thomas Mahar – Constable	3:00 p.m. to Midnight

Additional Staff for Counting Ballots:

Patricia Barschenski	8:00 p.m. to Midnight
Randy Sibley	8:00 p.m. to Midnight
Janet Korytoski	8:00 p.m. to Midnight
Roberta Reardon	8:00 p.m. to Midnight

At the opening of the polls, and before any ballots were cast, the Ballot Box register indicated 000; and at the close of the polls the Ballot Box register indicated 1032. Election officials processed the 287 early voting ballots throughout the morning by calling names and crossing the names off the check in and check out early voting lists and placing the ballots in the ballot box. Due to the quantity of ballots cast the ballot box needed to be opened several times to empty the ballots into a box kept in public view and guarded by election officials. By emptying the ballot box frequently it kept the box from clogging and therefore allowing the acceptance of ballots. There were two occasions when ballots got stuck and in the process of removing the ballot the ballot box rang. The officers in charge of the voting lists counted and announced the whole number of names checked on said lists to be 1030 which indicates that the stuck ballots did count two additional times. At the close of polls the presiding officer then removed the ballots from the ballot box and caused them to be counted one by one, and announced the whole number of ballots cast to be 1030. This confirms the discrepancy between the ballot box number, the number of ballots and the voting lists. The ballots having been duly sorted and counted were recorded and declared in open meeting to be as set forth in the official record.

1030 voters cast ballots of a possible 1,215 registered voters or 84.8%. Of the 1030 ballots, 287 ballots were from early voters, 45 were regular absentee ballots that arrived in time to be counted and 5 were absentee ballots from specially qualified voters. There was 1 absentee ballot requested, however, the voter voted in person. There were 3 absentee ballots that were not returned in time to be counted. There was also one UOCAVA ballot that was not returned. There was 1 provisional ballot that was researched with the RMV and was not counted because the person had not registered in Whately. The count of ballots ended at Midnight.

After all ballots were counted the absentee, early voting, UOCAVA, official ballots and spoiled ballots were sealed in two plastic bins using zip strips 0190231, 0190211, 0190270 and 0190260. Early voting envelopes, absentee envelopes were sealed in a box with the unused ballots with 2 strips numbered 0329031 and 0329033.

Canvas of votes:

Electors of President and Vice President

Clinton & Kaine	582
Johnson & Weld	55
Stein & Baraka	30
Trump & Pence	328
McMullin & Johnson (write-in)	1
All Others	16
Blanks	<u>18</u>
Total votes cast	1,030

Representative in Congress

James P. McGovern	831
All Others	3
Blanks	<u>196</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,030

Councillor

Mary E. Hurley	812
Others	1
Blanks	<u>217</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,030

Senator in General Court

Stanley C. Rosenberg	779
Donald Peltier	192
Others	1
Blanks	<u>58</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,030

Representative in General Court

Stephen Kulik	861
Others	2
Blanks	<u>167</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,030

Sheriff

Christopher J. Donelan	828
All Others	2
Blanks	<u>200</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,030

Council of Governments – Executive Committee	
Jay D. DiPucchio	765
All Others	1
Blanks	<u>264</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,030

QUESTION 1: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would allow the state Gaming Commission to issue one additional category 2 license, which would permit operation of a gaming establishment with no table games and not more than 1,250 slot machines.

The proposed law would authorize the Commission to request applications for the additional license to be granted to a gaming establishment located on property that is (i) at least four acres in size; (ii) adjacent to and within 1,500 feet of a race track, including the track's additional facilities, such as the track, grounds, paddocks, barns, auditorium, amphitheatre, and bleachers; (iii) where a horse racing meeting may physically be held; (iv) where a horse racing meeting shall have been hosted; and (v) not separated from the race track by a highway or railway.

A YES VOTE would permit the state Gaming Commission to license one additional slot-machine gaming establishment at a location that meets certain conditions specified in the law.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws regarding gaming.

Yes	329
No	674
Blanks	<u>27</u>
Total votes cast	1,030

QUESTION 2: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would allow the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to approve up to 12 new charter schools or enrollment expansions in existing charter schools each year. Approvals under this law could expand statewide charter school enrollment by up to 1% of the total statewide public school enrollment each year. New charters and enrollment expansions approved under this law would be exempt from existing limits on the number of charter schools, the number of students enrolled in them, and the amount of local school districts' spending allocated to them.

If the Board received more than 12 applications in a single year from qualified applicants, then the proposed law would require it to give priority to proposed charter schools or enrollment expansions in districts where student performance on statewide assessments is in the bottom 25% of all districts in the previous two years and where demonstrated parent demand for additional public school options is greatest.

New charter schools and enrollment expansions approved under this proposed law would be subject to the same approval standards as other charter schools, and to recruitment, retention, and multilingual outreach requirements that currently apply to some charter schools. Schools authorized under this law would be subject to annual performance reviews according to standards established by the Board.

The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2017.

A YES VOTE would allow for up to 12 approvals each year of either new charter schools or expanded enrollments in existing charter schools, but not to exceed 1% of the statewide public school enrollment.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws relative to charter schools.

Yes	344
No	669
Blanks	<u>17</u>
Total votes cast	1,030

QUESTION 3: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would prohibit any farm owner or operator from knowingly confining any breeding pig, calf raised for veal, or egg-laying hen in a way that prevents the animal from lying down, standing up, fully extending its limbs, or turning around freely. The proposed law would also prohibit any business owner or operator in Massachusetts from selling whole eggs intended for human consumption or any uncooked cut of veal or pork if the business owner or operator knows or should know that the hen, breeding pig, or veal calf that produced these products was confined in a manner prohibited by the proposed law. The proposed law would exempt sales of food products that combine veal or pork with other products, including soups, sandwiches, pizzas, hotdogs, or similar processed or prepared food items.

The proposed law's confinement prohibitions would not apply during transportation; state and county fair exhibitions; 4-H programs; slaughter in compliance with applicable laws and regulations; medical research; veterinary exams, testing, treatment and operation if performed under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian; five days prior to a pregnant pig's expected date of giving birth; any day that pig is nursing piglets; and for temporary periods for animal husbandry purposes not to exceed six hours in any twenty-four hour period.

The proposed law would create a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 for each violation and would give the Attorney General the exclusive authority to enforce the law, and to issue regulations to implement it. As a defense to enforcement proceedings, the proposed law would allow a business owner or operator to rely in good faith upon a written certification or guarantee of compliance by a supplier.

The proposed law would be in addition to any other animal welfare laws and would not prohibit stricter local laws.

The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2022. The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would prohibit any confinement of pigs, calves, and hens that prevents them from lying down, standing up, fully extending their limbs, or turning around freely.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws relative to the keeping of farm animals.

Yes	632
No	386
Blanks	<u>12</u>
Total votes cast	1,030

QUESTION 4: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

The proposed law would permit the possession, use, distribution, and cultivation of marijuana in limited amounts by persons age 21 and older and would remove criminal penalties for such activities. It would provide for the regulation of commerce in marijuana, marijuana accessories, and marijuana products and for the taxation of proceeds from sales of these items.

The proposed law would authorize persons at least 21 years old to possess up to one ounce of marijuana outside of their residences; possess up to ten ounces of marijuana inside their residences; grow up to six marijuana plants in their residences; give one ounce or less of marijuana to a person at least 21 years old without payment; possess, produce or transfer hemp; or make or transfer items related to marijuana use, storage, cultivation, or processing.

The measure would create a Cannabis Control Commission of three members appointed by the state Treasurer which would generally administer the law governing marijuana use and distribution, promulgate regulations, and be responsible for the licensing of marijuana commercial establishments. The proposed law would also create a Cannabis Advisory Board of fifteen members appointed by the Governor. The Cannabis Control Commission would adopt regulations governing licensing qualifications; security; record keeping; health and safety standards; packaging and labeling; testing; advertising and displays; required inspections; and such other matters as the Commission considers appropriate. The records of the Commission would be public records.

The proposed law would authorize cities and towns to adopt reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of operating marijuana businesses and to limit the number of marijuana establishments in their communities. A city or town could hold a local vote to determine whether to permit the selling of marijuana and marijuana products for consumption on the premises at commercial establishments.

The proceeds of retail sales of marijuana and marijuana products would be subject to the state sales tax and an additional excise tax of 3.75%. A city or town could impose a separate tax of up to 2%. Revenue received from the additional state excise tax or from license application fees and civil penalties for violations of this law would be deposited in a Marijuana Regulation Fund and would be used subject to appropriation for administration of the proposed law.

Marijuana-related activities authorized under this proposed law could not be a basis for adverse orders in child welfare cases absent clear and convincing evidence that such activities had created an unreasonable danger to the safety of a minor child.

The proposed law would not affect existing law regarding medical marijuana treatment centers or the operation of motor vehicles while under the influence. It would permit property owners to prohibit the use, sale, or production of marijuana on their premises (with an exception that landlords cannot prohibit consumption by tenants of marijuana by means other than by smoking); and would permit employers to prohibit the consumption of marijuana by employees in the workplace. State and local governments could

continue to restrict uses in public buildings or at or near schools. Supplying marijuana to persons under age 21 would be unlawful.

The proposed law would take effect on December 15, 2016.

A YES VOTE would allow persons 21 and older to possess, use, and transfer marijuana and products containing marijuana concentrate (including edible products) and to cultivate marijuana, all in limited amounts, and would provide for the regulation and taxation of commercial sale of marijuana and marijuana products.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws relative to marijuana.

Yes	553
No	443
Blanks	<u>34</u>
Total votes cast	1,030

A true record,

Attest:

Lynn M. Sibley, MMC, CMMC
Town Clerk