

State Election – November 3, 2020

EARLY VOTING

By Mail - Early voting was available by mail as well as in person. The State Legislature allowed early voting by mail due to the COVID 19 pandemic to allow people to vote safely from home. Early voting by mail was requested by 538 voters and 470 voters returned their ballots. The Secretary of the Commonwealth sent vote by mail applications to all registered voters no later than September 14, 2020. Anyone who registered to vote after that date was sent a Vote by Mail application with the registration acknowledgement letter.

In Person - Early voting in person was held at the Town Offices, 4 Sandy Lane starting on Saturday, October 17, 2020 and ended on Friday, October 30, 2020. 251 voters voted in person over the specified in-person early voting period. All voters were instructed to use hand sanitizers and were required to wear face coverings unless an exception applied. No voters refused. Voters checked in with the Clerk, each was given a ballot and an early voting envelope as well as a disposable pencil. Voters voted their ballot in the voting booths set up in the meeting space, 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 processed in VRIS and stored in a bin which was sealed each night and kept in the vault. A poll pad was used to check in in-person early voters. Voting booths were sanitized regularly throughout the day.

The listing below shows early voting hours, numbers of votes cast and the numbered strips that were used to seal the ballot holding 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 voted ballots.

Date	Votes Cast	Zip Strips used
October 17, 2020 2 – 4 pm	15 In Person	190257Y and a paper seal
October 18, 2020 2 – 4 pm	10 In Person	190296Y and a paper seal
October 19, 2020 8 am – 7 pm	26 In Person	190266Y and a paper seal
October 20, 2020 8 am – 4 pm	25 In Person	190256Y and a paper seal
October 21, 2020 8 am – 4 pm	12 In person	190235Y and a paper seal
October 22, 2020 8 am – 4 pm	16 In Person	329006B and a paper seal
October 23, 2020 9 am - Noon	10 In person	329056B and a paper seal
October 24, 2020 2 – 4 pm	5 In person	329043B and a paper seal
October 25, 2020 2 – 4 pm	13 In person	329012B and a paper seal
October 26, 2020 8 am – 7 pm	28 In person	329070B and a paper seal
October 27, 2020 8 am – 4 pm	19 In person	329064B and a paper seal
October 28, 2020 8 am – 4 pm	25 In person	329093B and a paper seal
October 29, 2020 8 am – 4 pm	28 In person	329071B and a paper seal
October 30, 2020 9 am – Noon	19 In person	190246Y and a paper seal

Advanced Removal of Early Vote Ballots

On October 29, 2020 at 2 p.m. Early Vote ballots received by mail as of October 28th were advanced removed in preparation for counting on election day. Two Election workers, Janet Scully and Lynn Sibley, read each name out loud and processed them through the Pollpad. 421 Vote by Mail ballots were advanced removed. Ballot envelopes were saved in a separate sealed box and ballots were counted into

groups of 50, placed in block envelopes and placed in a box with zip seal #0190226Y and a paper seal. Advanced removal ended at 4:12 p.m.

On October 30, 2020 at 1 p.m. Early vote in person ballots received by October 28, 2020 were advanced removed in preparation for counting on election day. Two election workers, Janet Scully and Lynn Sibley, read each name out loud and confirmed that they had been processed through the poll pad. 232 Early vote in person ballots were advanced removed. Ballot envelopes were saved in a separate sealed box and ballots were counted into groups of 50, placed in block envelopes and placed in a box with zip seal #0190265 and a paper seal. Advanced removal ended at 1:48 p.m.

There were no observers at either session of advanced removal. All early vote by mail ballots received after October 28th were brought to the polls to be processed. Early vote in person ballots received on October 29th and 30th were also processed at the polls as well as all Absentee ballots and UOCAVA ballots.

ELECTION DAY

Polls opened at 7:00 a.m. on November 3, 2020 on a sunny but cold morning. Temperatures at the time polls opened were in the mid-twenties rising to near 44 by midafternoon. It was very breezy as well. Polls closed at 8:00 p.m.

Election Officers were sworn in prior to their shifts.

Montserrat Archbald	7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Ashley Marcinkowski	7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Donna Wiley	7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Elizabeth Orloski	7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Neal Abraham	7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Constance Ludlam	3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Allison Bardwell	3:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Randy Sibley	4:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Maryann Sadoski	3:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Patricia Barschenski	3:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Myalin Lawrence	3:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Lynn Sibley – Clerk	7:00 a.m. to Midnight
Edwin Zaniewski, Constable	7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Thomas Mahar – Constable	2:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Additional Staff for Counting Ballots:

Amos Kohrman	8:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Mette Gustavsen	8:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Jeff Derose	8:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Briana Taylor	8:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
Robin Gurdak-Foley	8:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

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 464. Advanced Removed Ballots were brought to the polls to be counted with all election day ballots. An additional 19 Early vote in person ballots, 49 Early Vote by Mail ballots, 11 Absentee ballots and 5 UOCAVA

ballots were processed at the polls and are included in the 464 total. All ballots cast early were added to the election day total and added to 1,114. 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 three 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 461 which indicates that the stuck ballots did count three 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 on election day to be 461. 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.

1,114 voters cast ballots of a possible 1,259 registered voters or 88.5%. Of the 1,114 ballots, 470 ballots were from early voters, 11 were regular absentee ballots that arrived in time to be counted and 5 were absentee ballots from specially qualified voters. All absentee ballots requested were returned. There was also one UOCAVA ballot that was not returned. There was 1 provisional ballot that was not resolved by the close of polls. The count of ballots ended at 11:20 p.m.

After all ballots were counted the absentee, early voting, UOCAVA, official ballots and spoiled ballots were sealed in two plastic bins using zip strips 0190294 and 0190274 and signed paper seals. Early voting envelopes, absentee envelopes were sealed in boxes with signed paper seals. Miscellaneous Envelopes, rejected ballots and Test ballots were sealed in a plastic bin using zip strip 0190227 and signed paper seals.

Post-Election Counting – Any ballots received by mail postmarked by or on Nov. 3, 2020 and received by 5 p.m. November 6, 2020 could be counted after 5 on November 6th. A post-election counting session was legally posted and held on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 10 a.m. One provisional ballot that had been decided and one UOCAVA ballot were counted in this session. These are included in the Canvas of votes below.

No additional UOCAVA or FWAB ballots were received by 5 p.m. on November 13, 2020. The Board of Registrar meeting that was legally posted for November 17, 2020 to count these ballots was cancelled.

Canvas of votes:

Electors of President and Vice President		Provisional & UOCAVA	Totals
Biden & Harris	744	1	745
Hawkins & Walker	10		10
Jorgensen & Cohen	16		16
Trump & Pence	331	1	332
Romney & Ryan	1		1
All Others	4		4
Blanks	<u>8</u>		<u>8</u>
Total votes cast	1,114	<u>2</u>	1,116

Senator in Congress			
Edward J. Markey	746	1	747
Kevin J. O'Connor	336	1	337
Shiva Ayyadurai (Write-in)	13		13
Blanks	<u>19</u>		<u>19</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,114	<u>2</u>	1,116
Representative in Congress			
James P. McGovern	786	1	787
Tracy Lyn Lovvorn	297	1	298
Shiva Ayyardurai (Write-in)	2		2
Blanks	<u>29</u>		<u>29</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,114	<u>2</u>	1,116
Councillor			
Mary E. Hurley	895		895
Others	2		2
Blanks	<u>217</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>219</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,114	<u>2</u>	1,116
Senator in General Court			
Joanne M. Comerford	891		891
Others	2		2
Blanks	<u>221</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>223</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,114	<u>2</u>	1,116
Representative in General Court			
Natalie M. Blais	903		903
Others	3		3
Blanks	<u>208</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>210</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,114	<u>2</u>	1,116
Register of Probate			
John F. Merrigan	886		886
All Others	1		1
Blanks	<u>227</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>229</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,114	<u>2</u>	1,116
Council of Governments – Executive Committee			
Jay D. DiPucchio	846		846
Blanks	<u>268</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>270</u>
Total Votes Cast	1,114	<u>2</u>	1,116

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 5, 2020?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would require that motor vehicle owners and independent repair facilities be provided with expanded access to mechanical data related to vehicle maintenance and repair.

Starting with model year 2022, the proposed law would require manufacturers of motor vehicles sold in Massachusetts to equip any such vehicles that use telematics systems — systems that collect and wirelessly transmit mechanical data to a remote server — with a standardized open access data platform. Owners of motor vehicles with telematics systems would get access to mechanical data through a mobile device application. With vehicle owner authorization, independent repair facilities (those not affiliated with a manufacturer) and independent dealerships would be able to retrieve mechanical data from, and send commands to, the vehicle for repair, maintenance, and diagnostic testing.

Under the proposed law, manufacturers would not be allowed to require authorization before owners or repair facilities could access mechanical data stored in a motor vehicle's on-board diagnostic system, except through an authorization process standardized across all makes and models and administered by an entity unaffiliated with the manufacturer.

The proposed law would require the Attorney General to prepare a notice for prospective motor vehicle owners and lessees explaining telematics systems and the proposed law's requirements concerning access to the vehicle's mechanical data. Under the proposed law, dealers would have to provide prospective owners with, and prospective owners would have to acknowledge receipt of, the notice before buying or leasing a vehicle. Failure to comply with these notice requirements would subject motor vehicle dealers to sanctions by the applicable licensing authority.

Motor vehicle owners and independent repair facilities could enforce this law through state consumer protection laws and recover civil penalties of the greater of treble damages or \$10,000 per violation.

A YES VOTE would provide motor vehicle owners and independent repair facilities with expanded access to wirelessly transmitted mechanical data related to their vehicles' maintenance and repair.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the law governing access to vehicles' wirelessly transmitted mechanical data.

		Provisional & UOCAVA	Totals
Yes	843	1	844
No	237	1	238
Blanks	<u>34</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>34</u>
Total votes cast	1,114	2	1,116

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 5, 2020?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would implement a voting system known as “ranked-choice voting,” in which voters rank one or more candidates by order of preference. Ranked-choice voting would be used in primary and general elections for all Massachusetts statewide offices, state legislative offices, federal congressional offices, and certain other offices beginning in 2022. Ranked-choice voting would not be used in elections for president, county commissioner, or regional district school committee member.

Under the proposed law, votes would be counted in a series of rounds. In the first round, if one candidate received more than 50 percent of the first-place votes, that candidate would be declared the winner and no other rounds would be necessary. If no candidate received more than 50 percent of the first-place votes, then the candidate or candidates who received the fewest first-place votes would be eliminated and, in the next round, each vote for an eliminated candidate would instead be counted toward the next highest-ranked candidate on that voter’s ballot. Depending on the number of candidates, additional rounds of counting could occur, with the last-place candidate or candidates in each round being eliminated and the votes for an eliminated candidate going to the voter’s next choice out of the remaining candidates. A tie for last place in any round would be broken by comparing the tied candidates’ support in earlier rounds. Ultimately, the candidate who was, out of the remaining candidates, the preference of a majority of voters would be declared the winner.

Ranked-choice voting would be used only in races where a single candidate is to be declared the winner and not in races where more than one person is to be elected.

Under the proposed law, if no candidate received more than 50 percent of first-place votes in the first round, the rounds of ballot-counting necessary for ranked-choice voting would be conducted at a central tabulation facility. At the facility, voters’ rankings would be entered into a computer, which would then be used to calculate the results of each round of the counting process. The proposed law provides that candidates in a statewide or district election would have at least three days to request a recount.

The Secretary of State would be required to issue regulations to implement the proposed law and conduct a voter education campaign about the ranked-choice voting process. The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2022.

A YES VOTE would create a system of ranked-choice voting in which voters would have the option to rank candidates in order of preference and votes would be counted in rounds, eliminating candidates with the lowest votes until one candidate has received a majority.

A **NO VOTE** would make no change in the laws governing voting and how votes are counted.

Yes	577	1	578
No	503	1	504
Blanks	<u>34</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>34</u>
Total votes cast	1,114	2	1,116

QUESTION 3: Public Policy Question

Shall the representative for this district be instructed to vote in favor of legislation that would require Massachusetts to achieve 100% renewable energy use within the next two decades, starting immediately and making significant progress within the first five years while protecting impacted workers and business?

Yes	724	1	725
No	328	1	329
Blanks	<u>62</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>62</u>
Total votes cast	1,114	2	1,116

QUESTION 4: Public Policy Question

Shall the representative for this district be instructed to vote in favor of changes to the applicable House of Representative rules to make the results of all the votes in that body's Legislative committees publicly available on the Legislature's website?

Yes	895	1	896
No	138	1	139
Blanks	<u>81</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>81</u>
Total votes cast	1,114	2	1,116

A true record,

Attest:

Lynn M. Sibley, MMC, CMMC
Town Clerk