

# The General Laws of Massachusetts

## PART I. ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT

### TITLE VIII. ELECTIONS

#### CHAPTER 51. VOTERS

##### QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS

#### Chapter 51: Section 1. Qualifications of voters

*[ Text of section effective until October 29, 2008. For text effective October 29, 2008, see below.]*

Section 1. Every citizen eighteen years of age or older, not being a person under guardianship or incarcerated in a correctional facility due to a felony conviction, and not being temporarily or permanently disqualified by law because of corrupt practices in respect to elections, who is a resident in the city or town where he claims the right to vote at the time he registers, and who has complied with the requirements of this chapter, may have his name entered on the list of voters in such city or town, and may vote therein in any such election, or except insofar as restricted in any town in which a representative town meeting form of government has been established, in any meeting held for the transaction of town affairs. Notwithstanding any special law to the contrary, every such citizen who resides within the boundaries of any district, as defined in section one A of chapter forty-one, may vote for district officers and in any district meeting thereof, and no other person may so vote. No person otherwise qualified to vote for national or state officers shall, by reason of a change of residence within the commonwealth, be disqualified from voting for such officers in the city or town from which he has removed his residence until the expiration of six months from such removal.

#### Chapter 51: Section 1. Qualifications of voters

*[ Text of section as amended by 2008, 369, Sec. 1 effective October 29, 2008 until November 5, 2008. See 2008, 369, Secs. 3 and 4. For text effective until October 29, 2008, see above. For text effective November 5, 2008, see below.]*

Section 1. Every citizen eighteen years of age or older, not being a person under guardianship or incarcerated in a correctional facility due to a felony conviction, and not being temporarily or permanently disqualified by law because of corrupt practices in respect to elections, who is a resident in the city or town where he claims the right to vote at the time he registers, and who has complied with the requirements of this chapter, may have his name entered on the list of voters in such city or town, and may vote therein in any such election, or except insofar as restricted in any town in which a representative town meeting form of government has been established, in any meeting held for the transaction of town affairs. Notwithstanding any special law to the contrary, every such citizen who resides within the boundaries of any district, as defined in section one A of chapter forty-one, may vote for district officers and in any district meeting thereof, and no other person may so vote. A person otherwise qualified to vote for national or state officers shall not, by reason of a change of residence within the commonwealth, be disqualified from voting for national officers and statewide ballot questions in the city or town from which he has removed his residence until the expiration of 18 months from such removal.

#### Chapter 51: Section 1. Qualifications of voters

*[ Text of section as amended by 2008, 369, Sec. 2 effective November 5, 2008. See 2008, 369, Sec. 4. For text effective until November 5, 2008, see above.]*

Section 1. Every citizen eighteen years of age or older, not being a person under guardianship or incarcerated in a

Go To:
<a href="#">Next Section</a>
<a href="#">Previous Section</a>
<a href="#">Chapter Table of Contents</a>
<a href="#">MGL Search Page</a>
<a href="#">General Court Home</a>
<a href="#">Mass.gov</a>

correctional facility due to a felony conviction, and not being temporarily or permanently disqualified by law because of corrupt practices in respect to elections, who is a resident in the city or town where he claims the right to vote at the time he registers, and who has complied with the requirements of this chapter, may have his name entered on the list of voters in such city or town, and may vote therein in any such election, or except insofar as restricted in any town in which a representative town meeting form of government has been established, in any meeting held for the transaction of town affairs. Notwithstanding any special law to the contrary, every such citizen who resides within the boundaries of any district, as defined in section one A of chapter forty-one, may vote for district officers and in any district meeting thereof, and no other person may so vote. A person otherwise qualified to vote for national or state officers shall not, by reason of a change of residence within the commonwealth, be disqualified from voting for such national or state officers in the city or town from which he has removed his residence until the expiration of 6 months from such removal.