

GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 8, 2016- PROCEEDINGS

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant the General Election was held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at the Miscoe Hill Elementary School gymnasium. Polls were open at 6:15am. Poll workers were sworn in by Town Clerk, Margaret Bonderenko. Carol Cook served as Warden. Workers from opening to 5:00pm were: Ruth O'Grady, Laura Taylor, Jennifer Taylor, Martha Gebelien, Nancy Bradley, Janice Muldoon-Moors, Susan Carlsom, Carol Kotros, John Hogarth and Gloria Hogarth as clerk. The officer was Donald Blanchette from 6:00am-1:15pm and Matthew Pichel until 9:00PM.

This was first time that Early Voting was conducted in Massachusetts. We had 1085 people vote early. There was an extra machine rented so that we could have a Central Tabulation Facility at the polling place, just be used for the early voting ballots. Kathleen Schofield, Jane Lowell and Amy DeWitt spent the day casting the ballots for the early voters they were a tremendous help throughout the day to our election officials.

Poll workers serving from 5:00pm to 8:00pm were, Wayne Phipps, Jean Brennan, Jim Brennan, Ann Vandersluis, Nancy Fleury, Kathy Rich, Deb Costa, Kimberly DiChiara, Tom Irons and Maybelle Grant as clerk.

Polls were closed at 8:00pm. 3582 total votes cast. 1 Provisional ballots and 1 overseas ballot were added to the final count. The final votes cast number is 3584. Results were announced at 8:15pm by Warden Carol Cook.

PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT

Clinton/Kaine	1530
Johnson/Weld	214
Stein/Baraka	30
Trump/Pence	1694
Evan McMullen	10
All others	35
Blanks	71

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

James P. McGovern	2316
All others	22
Blanks	1246

COUNCILLOR

Jennie Caissie	2002
Matthew CJ Vance	1148
Blanks	434

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT

Ryan C. Fattman	2682
All others	21
Blanks	881

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

Sandra Biagetti	1884
Brian Murray	1462
All others	1
Blanks	238

SHERIFF

Lewis Evangelidis	2540
Blanks	1034
All Others	10

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	1416
NO	2026
BLANKS	142

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	1297
NO	2213
BLANKS	74

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	2683
NO	816
Blanks	85

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	1849
NO	1690
Blanks	45

QUESTION 5

“Shall the Town of Mendon amend its acceptance of Sections 3 to 7, inclusive of chapter 44B of the General Laws, by adopting Exemption (1) of Section 3(e) of Chapter 44B of the General Laws, as approved by the Annual Town Meeting held on May 6, 2016, for property owned and occupied as a domicile by a person who would qualify for low income housing or low or moderate income senior housing in the said Town, commencing in fiscal year 2017, a summary of which appears below?”

SUMMARY

Sections 3 to 7 of Chapter 44B of the General Laws of Massachusetts, also known as the Community Preservation Act (Act), establish a dedicated funding source to enable cities and towns to (1) acquire, create or preserve open space, which includes land for parks, recreational uses and conservation areas, and rehabilitate local parks, playgrounds, and athletic fields, (2) acquire, preserve, rehabilitate or restore historic buildings and resources, and (3) acquire, create, preserve and support affordable housing.

The Town of Mendon (Town) accepted the Act in 2002, by approval of the 2002 Annual Town Meeting and acceptance by the voters at the November 2002 election. In accordance with the acceptance and approval, the Town imposes a surcharge of three (3%) percent on the annual property tax assessed on real property. The surcharge is a funding source for the community preservation purposes under the Act. When the Town accepted the Act in 2002, it accepted a statutory exemption from the surcharge for the first \$100,000 of the value of each taxable parcel of residential real property. This ballot question involves whether the Town will accept an additional statutory exemption from the surcharge. If this ballot question is approved, property owned and occupied as a domicile by any person who qualifies for low income housing or low or moderate income senior housing in the Town, as defined in Section 2 of the Act, will be exempt from the surcharge on real property permitted by the Act, commencing in Fiscal Year 2017. The ballot question is approved and the exemption accepted if a majority of the voters voting on the ballot question vote “yes.”

YES	1968
NO	1292
Blanks	324

A true copy. Attest:

Margaret Bonderenko
Town Clerk

