



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

362 GREEN STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • TEL. 876-9828

April 26, 1971

BOARD OF
ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

Attention: Mr. Paul E. Healy

Dear Sir:

In answer to the request of Councillor Clinton, regarding registration units at all high schools in the City of Cambridge, I submit the following:

At the present time there is nothing in the law that allows us to go out and register 18-year olds.

If an 18-year old presents himself at the Election office and is eligible, he is registered in a separate book, and will be transferred to the regular voting list when he reaches the age of 19.

At the present time we have to have separate registers, separate voting lists and special ballots will be had for the 18 year olds to vote in 1972.

There is legislature going on in the State which will allow us to go to the high schools and I feel sure that this will be resolved before the students return to school in September and there will be ample time for them to be registered.

Very truly yours,

CAMBRIDGE ELECTION COMMISSION

FRANCIS P. BURNS, EXECUTIVE SEC'Y

FPB/od

April 26, 1971

Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, Mass 02139

Att: Mr. Paul E. Healy

Dear Sir:

In answer to the request of Councillor Ackermann, regarding the law as to who would be eligible to vote in the coming election 1971, I submit the following:

"Every citizen of 19 years of age or over who has resided in Cambridge for six months immediately preceding an election in which he claims a right to vote, shall be registered and may vote in the coming election in November 1971.

Every citizen of the age of 18 or over, who has resided in Cambridge for six months, shall be registered as a voter for the offices of Congressman, U.S. Senator and electors of President and Vice-President, and may vote in the year 1972."

In regard to House Bill 5129, I have found that the following amendments are proposed to Chapter 51 of the General Laws on Registration: (copy attached).

SECTION 1 of Chapter 51 reduces the age from 21 to 19:

deletes the requirement of reading test and reduces time of residence from 1 year to 6 months.

SECTION 2 SECTION 26 of CHAPTER 51 changes last day to register as 29 days, from present 30 days.

SECTION 3 SECTION 3 1A of CHAPTER 51 changes time and vote for President and Vice President from 30 days to 29 days.

SECTION 4 SECTION 28 of CHAPTER 51 changes the time for last day of registration from 10 P.M. to 7 P.M.

SECTION 5 SECTION 42 of CHAPTER 51 adds the age of 19 to section on Party Enrolment.

SECTION 6 SECTION 44 of CHAPTER 51 deletes the reading and allows registrant to make a mark instead of signing his name.

SECTION 7 SECTION 4 of CHAPTER 51 changes age from 20 to 17 in regard to Police listing.

SECTION 8 SECTION 10A of CHAPTER 51 changes age from 20 to 17 in regard to information given to Police Listing official.

Very truly yours,

CAMBRIDGE ELECTION COMMISSION


FRANCIS P. BURNS, EXECUTIVE SEC'Y

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Communication from Francis P. Burns,
Executive Secretary, Cambridge Election
Commission regarding registration units
at all high schools in the City of Cam-
bridge and information regarding House Bill
5129

Filed