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Town of Freetown 2018 MAY 31 AM 11:42

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

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J. A. Brown

March 15, 2018

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

A posted Board of Registrars meeting and Final Voter Registration Session was scheduled on March 13, 2018 for the Annual Town Election. Due to a prediction of inclement weather on Wednesday, March 13th, a court order was received enlarging the deadline for the Final Voter Registration Date to 8PM on March 14th.

The Board of Registrars, Mary Bowen and Gil Medeiros were present from 4PM-8PM for the Final Voter Registration Session. There were no deliberations held and no voter registrations submitted.

Respectfully submitted

Jacqueline A. Brown
Jacqueline A. Brown
Town Clerk

NOV 17

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK, ss.

SUPERIOR COURT

NO. 18-cv-

18-0810C

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN, as he is
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH,

Plaintiff,

v.

Towns of ACUSHNET, ATHOL, BARRE,
BELLINGHAM, BLACKSTONE,
FAIRHAVEN, FREETOWN, LAKEVILLE,
MAYNARD, MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA,
MILLVILLE, NORFOLK, NORWOOD,
PLAINVILLE, PROVINCETOWN, REHOBOTH,
SEEKONK, SHIRLEY, SHREWSBURY,
SOUTHAMPTON, TOPSFIELD, WARREN,
WEST BROOKFIELD, WESTFORD,
WRENTHAM, and others,

Defendants.

Advised that all representatives
of all 351 cities and towns in
the Commonwealth have been
apprised of this motion and
its requested relief, and there
has been no objection
from any city or
town,

~~Proposed~~ ORDER

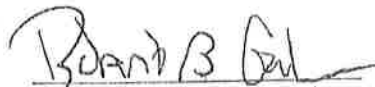
The Court, after hearing and based on the Secretary's Verified Complaint and the representations of the parties, finds that (1) an actual controversy has arisen between the parties regarding the defendant Towns' election officials' authority and duty with respect to local election-related deadlines; and (2) injunctive relief is necessary in order to prevent irreparable harm, including infringement on the voting rights of voters in the defendant Towns, disruption of local governmental processes, and waste of municipal resources. The Court ~~therefore~~ directs that judgment be entered as follows:

Order of Preliminary Injunction ✓

1. It is hereby declared that an actual controversy has arisen among the parties regarding the anticipated impossibility of compliance with state laws that impose local election deadlines and that such controversy requires immediate ~~resolution~~ ^{Preliminary Injunction} to protect the rights of voters in the affected towns. *See Libertarian Ass'n of Mass. v. Sec'y of the Commonwealth*, 462 Mass. 538, 560-561 (2012) (considering burden of election-related laws on political candidates and, consequently, on voters).
2. It is hereby ordered that:
 - a. In the Towns of Acushnet, Athol, Barre, Blackstone, Fairhaven, Freetown, Lakeville, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Millville, Norwood, Plainville, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Wrentham, and Provincetown, any other town in the Commonwealth with a deadline to register to vote of 8:00 pm on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, that deadline is hereby ~~postponed~~ ^{enlarged} to 8:00 pm on Wednesday, March 14, 2018.
 - b. In the Towns of Bellingham, Maynard, Norfolk, Shirley, Shrewsbury, Southampton, Warren, and West Brookfield, any other town in the Commonwealth with a deadline for submission of nomination papers of 5:00 pm on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, that deadline is hereby ~~postponed~~ ^{enlarged} to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14, 2018.
 - c. In the Town of Topsfield any other town in the Commonwealth with a deadline for candidates to obtain nomination papers of 5:00 pm on

Tuesday, March 13, 2018, that deadline is hereby ^{enlarged} postponed to 5:00 pm on
Wednesday, March 14, 2018.

- d. The plaintiff, Secretary of the Commonwealth, shall publicize this Order
forthwith to all local election officials in the Commonwealth through the
broadcast email list maintained by the Secretary for such purposes.


J.

Associate Justice
Superior Court

Date: March 12, 2018

3 For good cause shown, and in accordance with
Mass R. Civ. P. 65.1, no security shall be required in connection
with the issuance of this Order.