

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to petition the General Court for passage of a special law substantially as provided below, to authorize the Legislature to make clerical or editorial changes in form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the Legislature, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments that shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF HOPKINTON
TO HOLD EARLY VOTING FOR ALL ANNUAL AND SPECIAL TOWN ELECTIONS.

Section 1. Qualified voters within the Town of Hopkinton, as defined in section 1 of chapter 51 of the General Laws, shall be permitted to cast a ballot in any annual or special town election during an early voting period.

Section 2. Notwithstanding any provision purporting to limit the application of section 25B of chapter 54 of the General Laws or its implementing regulations, such chapter and regulations shall govern all aspects of early voting, including, but not limited to, the establishment of the early voting period, the procedures for early voting, and the counting of early voting ballots, for all such annual or special Town elections; provided, however, that, unless such Town election is to occur at the same time as the biennial state election, the Town Clerk (a) shall not be required to provide notice to the Secretary of the Commonwealth of the early voting locations, and (b) shall prepare all early voting materials; and provided further, that, notwithstanding 950 CMR 47.03(2), the Town Clerk may, in his or her discretion, end early voting at XXX p.m. on those days on which a Special or Annual Town Meeting is to be held.

Section 3. This Special Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.