

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 565**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Antonio F. D. Cabral*

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to expand access to voter registration.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Antonio F. D. Cabral*

*13th Bristol*

*Denise Andrews*

*2nd Franklin*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 565**

By Mr. Cabral of New Bedford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 565) of Antonio F. D. Cabral and Denise Andrews for legislation to expand access to voter registration. Election Laws.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**

An Act to expand access to voter registration.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 36 of chapter 51 of the general laws, as appearing in the 2010  
2 official edition, is hereby amended in line 9 by striking “and Spanish” and inserting in place  
3 thereof “, Spanish and Portuguese”

4 SECTION 1. Chapter 51 is hereby amended by inserting after section 36 the following  
5 new section:-

6 Section 36A. The state secretary shall publish on the internet, in a manner accessible to  
7 the public, an affidavit of voter registration in a printable electronic document format. This  
8 document shall be a valid affidavit of voter registration under this chapter. The state secretary  
9 shall post the electronic document in English, Spanish and Portuguese and in such additional  
10 languages as he deems necessary or as required by law. The electronic affidavit of voter  
11 registration shall give registrants the option to enter data directly into the form prior to printing  
12 out the affidavit or to print a blank form and manually enter information. The registrant shall  
13 personally sign and mail, or deliver personally or by an authorized person the completed  
14 affidavit of voter registration form to the appropriate city elections department or town clerk’s  
15 office; provided, however, that the registrant may mail, or deliver personally or by an authorized  
16 person the form to the state secretary who shall cause it to be delivered to the appropriate city  
17 elections department or town clerk’s office.