

HOUSE No. 1970

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Tackey Chan

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 relative to the street list.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>	<i>10/5/2012</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2011</i>
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>
<i>Joseph F. Wagner</i>	<i>8th Hampden</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>
<i>Gailanne M. Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>	<i>2/4/2011</i>

HOUSE No. 1970

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1970) of Tackey Chan and others relative to the annual street list for voters. Election Laws.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 551 OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to the street list.

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 4 of chapter 51 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by
2 section 11 of chapter 384 of the acts of 2000, is hereby amended by striking out said section 4
3 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

4 Section 4. (a) Registrars, assistant registrars, or boards having similar duties under any
5 general or special law, except in the city of Boston, shall annually in January or February visit or
6 communicate with the residents of each building in their respective cities and towns and, after
7 diligent inquiry, shall make true lists containing, as nearly as they can ascertain, the name, date
8 of birth, occupation, veteran status, nationality, if not a citizen of the United States, and residence
9 on January 1 of the preceding year, and the current year, of each person residing in their
10 respective cities and towns. Said lists and the information contained therein shall not be a matter
11 of public record, provided however, that said lists shall, upon written request, be available for

12 federal, state and local governmental use. A list of all persons under 21 years of age, inclusive,
13 shall be transmitted by the board of registrars to the respective school committee not later than
14 April 1 of each year. The list shall contain the name, residence and age or date of birth of each
15 such person, but said names shall not be disclosed to any person other than the respective school
16 committee or board of trustees of a county agricultural school or their designated representatives.
17 That proportion of any expenses incurred by the registrars under this section, equal to the
18 proportion that the number of persons under 17 years of age bears to the total number of persons
19 listed thereunder, shall be carried as an item in the school committee budget.

20 (b) In the city of Boston, the registrars, assistant registrars or boards having similar duties
21 under any general or special law, shall annually in January or February visit or communicate
22 with the residents of each building in said city and, after diligent inquiry, shall make true lists
23 containing, as nearly as they can ascertain, the name, date of birth, occupation, veterans status,
24 nationality if not a citizen of the United States, and residence on January 1 of the preceding year
25 and the current year, of each person 17 years of age or older residing in said city. Said lists and
26 the information contained therein shall not be a matter of public record, provided however, that
27 said lists shall, upon written request, be available for federal, state and local governmental use.

28 (c)

29 In any city or town which communicates with residents by mail for the purposes of
30 obtaining such information, the communication shall state in boldface type on the postcard,
31 envelope and printed material contained in such communication the following statement:
32 "Warning: Failure to respond to this mailing shall result in removal from the active voting list
33 and may result in removal from the voter registrations rolls." Registrars, assistant registrars or

34 boards in such cities or towns communicating with residents by mail for the purposes of
35 obtaining such information may require a response under the penalties of perjury.

36 (d) The name and address of any person who provides the registrars with a copy of a
37 court order granting protection, or evidence of residence in a protective shelter, or an affidavit
38 signed by a chief of police or his designee that said person is entitled to have certain information
39 withheld from the public under section 24C of chapter 265, shall not appear on the street list and
40 such names shall not be disclosed to any person. The information collected under this section
41 regarding a person's status as a veteran shall not be a public record and shall only be disclosed to
42 the adjutant general and commissioner of veterans' services.

43 SECTION 2. Chapter 51 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Official Edition,
44 is hereby amended by striking out section 6 in its entirety

45 SECTION 3. Chapter 51 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
46 striking out section out 7 in its entirety.

47 SECTION 4. Chapter 51 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding to the end of
48 section 11, as so appearing, the following sentence:- Said book and the information contained
49 therein shall not be a matter of public record, provided however, that said book shall, upon
50 written request, be available for federal, state and local governmental use.

51 SECTION 5. Chapter 51 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section
52 47C, as so appearing, and inserting in place hereof the following:- Section 47C, Subject to
53 appropriation, the state secretary shall maintain a central registry of voters which shall contain, if
54 provided by the registrars, the names, addresses and effective dates of registration of all
55 registered voters in the commonwealth and which shall contain the name, date of birth,

56 occupation, nationality, if not a citizen of the United States, for street list purposes only, and
57 residence on January first in the preceding year and the current year, of every person in the
58 commonwealth, and shall adopt regulations governing the operation of said central registry. All
59 information contained in said central registry shall not be a matter of public record, provided
60 however, that all such information shall be available to the jury commissioner; that veteran status
61 information shall be available to the adjutant general and the commissioner of veterans' services;
62 and that information regarding the names, addresses, political designations and effective dates of
63 registration of registered voters shall be available to state party committees, statewide candidate
64 committees, state ballot question committees, and any other individual, agency or entity that the
65 state secretary shall designate by regulation consistent with the purposes of this section, at fair
66 and reasonable cost not to exceed the cost of printing or preparing computer readable documents.