

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

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Brian M. Ashe*

*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 absentee ballots.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>10/19/2012</i>

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

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By Mr. Ashe of Longmeadow, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Brian M. Ashe relative to absentee ballots. Election Laws.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Twelve  
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An Act relative to absentee ballots.

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

1 Chapter 54 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 89 the  
2 following section:-

3 Section 89A.

4 Records identifying any voter who has applied to vote by absentee ballot shall be kept  
5 confidential and shall not be considered a public record under clause Twenty-sixth of section 7  
6 of chapter 4 until the ballot has been returned; provided, however, that election officials may use  
7 these records in the proper discharge of their duties.