

SENATE No. 313

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Katherine M. Clark

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 establishing online voter registration.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Katherine M. Clark</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Cory Atkins</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Martha M. Walz</i>	<i>8th Suffolk</i>
<i>Kenneth J. Donnelly</i>	<i>Fourth Middlesex</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>

SENATE No. 313

By Ms. Clark, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 313) of Katherine M. Clark, Jason M. Lewis, Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., Cory Atkins and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish online voter registration. Election Laws.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 298 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act establishing online 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 33 of Chapter 51 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 33 the following section:-

3 Section 33A. The state secretary will create and maintain an online portal allowing
4 citizens to complete an affidavit of registration online. Such registration will be transmitted by
5 the secretary to the appropriate local registrar. The online affidavit will use the registrants'
6 signature from the Registry of Motor Vehicles records; the Registrar of Motor Vehicles shall
7 make appropriate provisions to facilitate the electronic transfer of the image of the signature to
8 the Central Voter Registry. If such signature cannot be found using the online affidavit of
9 registration form the applicant will be so informed and given the option to print the affidavit of
10 registration, append their signature, and mail it directly to the appropriate registrar of voters.
11 Nothing in this section shall be construed to change any registration deadline or qualification of
12 voting.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 51 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
14 inserting after section 63 the following section:-

15 Section 64. Allowing voters to check the status of their registration

16 The state secretary shall create and maintain an online portal through which any member
17 of the public may check to determine whether or not they are registered to vote. Such a portal
18 shall allow a member of the public to enter their name and date of birth and residential zip code
19 and will then show whether or not a voter with said name and date of birth and residential zip
20 code is registered to vote, and whether the registration of the voter is active or inactive pursuant
21 to section 37 of chapter 51, and will also show the polling location for said voter and state and
22 federal elected officials who represent said voter. The portal shall not display any other
23 information about the voter except the information provided by the user of the site. If there is no
24 voter in the Central Voter Registry matching the information submitted to the portal, the website
25 shall inform the user how they may obtain a voter registration form.

26 SECTION 3. Section 42H of Chapter 51 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
27 inserting after the word “delivery”, the following words:-, "and through the online portal."