

HOUSE No. 137

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Timothy R. Whelan and Richard J. Ross

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 a low vision registry.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	<i>1/15/2015</i>
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/15/2015</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>	<i>8/16/2019</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>	<i>8/16/2019</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>8/16/2019</i>
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>8/16/2019</i>

HOUSE No. 137

By Representative Whelan of Brewster and Senator Ross, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 137) of Timothy R. Whelan and others relative to establishing a low-vision registry and improving access to information for the Commonwealth Registry of the Blind. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act establishing a low vision registry.

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. Chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by inserting after section 135 the following section:-

3 Section 135A. The Commissioner shall create a registry list of persons whose visual
4 acuity is found to be with correction 20/60 or less in the better eye, or the peripheral field of
5 vision to have contracted to the ten degrees radius or less regardless of visual acuity. Said
6 register shall be used to aid the commission in efforts to measure the numbers of likely future
7 registrants to the Commonwealth Registry of the Blind. Such persons shall not be eligible for
8 services from the Commission until the standard of legal blindness is met.

9 The reporting requirements contained in section 136 of this chapter shall apply to this
10 section.