

HOUSE No. 546

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Tackey Chan, (BY REQUEST)

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 CORI checking candidates for office.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|----------------------|---|------------------|
| <i>Donald Kusser</i> | <i>173 Edgewater Drive Quincy, MA 02169</i> | <i>1/14/2015</i> |

HOUSE No. 546

By Mr. Chan of Quincy (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 546) of Donald Kusser for legislation to require candidates for certain public offices to submit criminal offender record information two weeks prior to the holding of the election. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to CORI checking candidates for office.

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 53 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 47 the following new section:

3 Section 47A. Any individual seeking candidacy for office pursuant to chapter 53 of the
4 General Laws shall be required to file a document containing a criminal background check for
5 said individual. The criminal background check shall be completed consistent with sections 167
6 to 178B of chapter 6 of the General Laws. Said documents shall be filed with the elections
7 division of the Secretary of State no later than the last day to file nomination papers pursuant to
8 section 47 of chapter 53 of the General Laws. The criminal background check must have been
9 conducted not more than 6 weeks and not less than 2 weeks prior to last day of filing nomination
10 papers with the elections division of the Secretary of State. All fees associated with the criminal
11 check shall be paid by the individual seeking candidacy for office.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 39 of the General Laws is hereby amended after section 9A the
13 following new section:

14 Section 9B. Any individual seeking candidacy for office pursuant to a city or town by-
15 law shall be required to file a document containing a criminal background check for said
16 individual. The criminal background check shall be completed consistent with sections 167 to
17 178B of chapter 6 of the General Laws. Said documents shall be filed with the city or town clerk
18 no later than the last day to file nomination papers as set by the city or town consistent with its
19 by-laws. The criminal background check must have been conducted not more than 6 weeks and
20 not less than 2 weeks prior to last day of filing nomination papers with the city or town clerk.
21 All fees associated with the criminal check shall be paid by the individual seeking candidacy for
22 office.