

HOUSE No. 354

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Evandro C. Carvalho

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 to allow election day voter registration.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Evandro C. Carvalho</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>
<i>Martin J. Walsh (Mayor)</i>	<i>1 City Hall Square, 5th Floor Boston, MA 02201</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Byron Rushing</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>
<i>Russell E. Holmes</i>	<i>6th Suffolk</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>
<i>Linda Dorcena Forry</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 354

By Mr. Carvalho of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 354) of Evandro C. Carvalho and others relative to allowing eligible citizens who missed registration deadline to cast their ballot on election day. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act to allow election day 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. Chapter 51 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 64 the following section:-

3 Section 65. Election Day Registration. As used in this section, “election” shall include
4 every state, city or town primary, preliminary election, election or town meeting.

5 Notwithstanding any other section of this chapter to the contrary, any person not previously
6 registered as a voter in the commonwealth who has failed to register by the time prescribed under
7 section twenty-six may appear before the registrars of the city or town of the person’s legal
8 residence on the day of an election and register as a voter.

9 A registrant who registers pursuant to this section shall appear in person at one or more
10 locations and during hours designated by the registrars and shall complete an affidavit of voter
11 registration in the presence of the registrars and present suitable identification.

12 If the registrars determine that the registrant qualifies to register as a voter for such
13 election, they shall cause the name and residence of the registrant to be added to the voting list of
14 the ward, voting precinct, polling place or town in which such election is being held and shall
15 immediately transmit such information to the presiding officer of the polling place where such
16 voter is assigned, and the voter shall then be permitted to vote in such election at such polling
17 place.

18 A registrant who fails to present suitable identification shall be permitted to deposit a
19 provisional ballot pursuant to the provisions of section 76C of chapter 54, but shall be required to
20 return within three days after such election to present sufficient identification to the registrars in
21 order for the registrars to determine that the registrant is qualified to vote in such election and
22 has deposited an eligible provisional ballot.

23
24 The registrars may correct information supplied by the registrant to the extent necessary
25 to maintain the integrity of their records. If an affidavit is incomplete or if it appears from the
26 facts set forth in the affidavit that the registrant is not qualified to register as a voter, the
27 registrars shall proceed in accordance with the provisions of section forty-seven.

28 As soon as practicable after the election, the registrars shall add the registrant's name,
29 address and effective date of registration to the annual register of voters.

30 SECTION 2. The state secretary shall promulgate regulations necessary to implement
31 this section.

32 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2018.