

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3681**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Timothy R. Whelan***

*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>1/26/2017</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Geoff Diehl</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Rady Mom</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>

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By Mr. Whelan of Brewster, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) 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.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 137 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

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.