

HOUSE No. 4959

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marjorie C. Decker and Sal N. DiDomenico

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 authorizing the city of Cambridge to offer early voting in municipal elections.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/2/2018</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>11/2/2018</i>

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By Representative Decker of Cambridge and Senator DiDomenico, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4959) of Marjorie C. Decker and Sal N. DiDomenico (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Cambridge be authorized to offer early voting in municipal elections. Election Laws. [Local Approval Received.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act authorizing the city of Cambridge to offer early voting in municipal elections.

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.

2 Beginning in the year 2019, notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary,
3 the City of Cambridge’s Election Commission shall offer early voting for municipal elections.

4 The City of Cambridge’s Election Commission shall allow any qualified voter, as defined in
5 section 1 of chapter 51 of the General Laws, to cast a ballot for any biennial municipal election
6 during the early voting period.

7 The City of Cambridge’s Election Commission shall promulgate regulations to
8 implement this act consistent with section 25B of chapter 54 of the General Laws. Such
9 regulations shall include, but shall not be limited to, a process for establishing early voting
10 locations, dates, staffing, and a process for applying for, receiving, separating, compiling,

11 recording, and securing early voter ballots. Each early voting site shall be accessible to persons
12 with disabilities.

13 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

14 This act shall take full effect upon its acceptance and appropriation by vote of the City
15 Council of said City, but not otherwise.