

HOUSE No. 649

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Shawn Dooley

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 decrease waiting times at polling places.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>

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By Mr. Dooley of Norfolk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 649) of Shawn Dooley, Michael J. Soter and David F. DeCoste that the State Secretary provide for a program to allow cities and towns to implement a voter “speed pass” system. Election Laws.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 359 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act to decrease waiting times at polling places.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 54 of the General Laws, is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

2 Section 144. (a) The state secretary shall provide for a program to allow cities and towns
3 to implement a voter “speed pass” system in addition to the manual system currently used by
4 cities and towns. The purpose of the program shall be to reduce wait times for voters at polling
5 places. The program shall allow voter information to be electronically scanned in order to check-
6 in and check-out of the polling location.

7 (b) The program shall use software approved by the state secretary. The software shall
8 meet the highest security ratings available. The program shall utilize an electronic poll book, if
9 available to the city or town, to verify voter information. The verification shall be directly

10 uploaded back into the commonwealth's voter registration information system, in addition to the
11 manual system that is currently in place.

12 (c) At no time shall this device be able to be accessed via a wireless device or a remote
13 facility. The only transfer of data that shall be done will be securely done at the City or Town
14 Clerk's office with a device approved by the Secretary of the Commonwealth. The Clerk shall
15 follow all security protocols as set forth by the Secretary of the Commonwealth.