

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 662**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Tami L. Gouveia and Michael J. Barrett***

*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 healthy voting habits among youth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/16/2019</i>
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>	<i>1/16/2019</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/22/2019</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

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By Representative Gouveia of Acton and Senator Barrett, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 662) of Tami L. Gouveia, Michael J. Barrett and others for legislation to lower the voting age in local elections. Election Laws.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act establishing healthy voting habits among youth.

*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 Section 1 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking  
2 out (a) “any such election” and place therein “any state or federal election.”

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 51 of the General Laws in hereby amended by inserting after  
4 section 1F the following section:-

5 Section 1G. Voting for Citizens 16 years of age and older in city or town elections

6 Every citizen sixteen years of age or older, not being a person under guardianship or  
7 incarcerated in a correctional facility due to a felony conviction, and not being temporarily or  
8 permanently disqualified by law because of corrupt practices in respect to elections, who is a  
9 resident in the city or town where they claim the right to vote at the time they register, and who  
10 resides in a city or town where the city council, town meeting, selectboard, or other form of town  
11 governance granted right to vote by majority vote, and who has complied with the requirements  
12 of this chapter, may have their name entered on the list of voters in such city or town, and may

13 vote therein in any such municipal, or except insofar as restricted in any town in which a  
14 representative town meeting form of government has been established, in any meeting held for  
15 the transaction of town affairs. Notwithstanding any special law to the contrary, every such  
16 citizen who resides within the boundaries of any district, as defined in section one A of chapter  
17 forty-one, may vote for district officers and in any district meeting thereof, and no other person  
18 may so vote.