

HOUSE No. 675

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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 relative to permanent funding for early voting.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/17/2019</i>
<i>Bradford Hill</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>	<i>1/24/2019</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>	<i>1/17/2019</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>1/17/2019</i>
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Randy Hunt</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>William L. Crocker, Jr.</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>Angelo L. D'Emilia</i>	<i>8th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>David K. Muradian, Jr.</i>	<i>9th Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

HOUSE No. 675

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 675) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others for legislation to provide funding to cities and towns to defray the mandated costs imposed under early voting. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to permanent funding for early voting.

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. Section 25B of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after subsection (q) the following subsection:-

3 (r) the commonwealth shall pay to each city and town an amount sufficient to defray the
4 mandated costs imposed on the city or town under the provisions of this section, including
5 additional personnel hired for staffing to conduct early voting, hourly municipal staff working
6 outside their normal business hours to staff the mandated early voting polling location, overtime
7 for hourly municipal staff working beyond regular hours to setup or take down early voting
8 polling locations, overtime for hourly municipal staff working beyond regular hours to input data
9 into the secretary of state’s Voter Registration Information System, the cost of supplies needed to
10 implement early voting. In every year not later than September 15th, the state auditor shall
11 determine and deliver to the state secretary a statement of the incremental costs attributed to this
12 section and estimated to be incurred by each city and town in the next fiscal year. The state

13 secretary shall include in his budget recommendations for such fiscal year a request for an
14 appropriation in an amount equal to such estimated costs, and shall distribute to each city or
15 town its share of any such appropriated funds not more than 30 days prior to the date upon which
16 said costs shall be incurred by the city or town. Funds so distributed to each city or town shall be
17 deposited in the general fund of the city or town and shall be expended without further
18 appropriation by the city or town to meet the costs incurred by it under the provisions of this
19 section.