

**SENATE . . . . . No. 427**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Bruce E. Tarr*

*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 fairly fund early voting.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 427**

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By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 427) of Bruce E. Tarr and David F. DeCoste for legislation to fairly fund early voting. Election Laws.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 2052 OF 2017-2018.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to fairly fund 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 is hereby amended by  
2 inserting at the end thereof the following new subsection:-

3 “(r) The Commonwealth shall reimburse each city and town to the full extent of the  
4 amounts expended for mandated early voting procedures and operations. The state treasurer shall  
5 annually, on or before July 1st of the year following the election for which reimbursement is  
6 being sought, pay to cities and towns, the sums required for such reimbursement and approved  
7 by the secretary of state pursuant to section 2 herein. Each city and town may establish an Early  
8 Voting Reimbursement Fund. Reimbursements made by the commonwealth pursuant to this  
9 section may be deposited into the fund and may carry forward for 1 fiscal year.”

10           SECTION 2. Section 25B of Chapter 54 of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
11 inserting in subsection (o) the following at the end thereof:-  
12           “including the means to seek, process and approve reimbursement subject to subsection  
13 (r)”