

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marjorie C. Decker

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 combating misinformation about ex-offender voting rights.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Marjorie C. Decker	25th Middlesex	2/19/2021
David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf	17th Worcester	2/23/2021
Michael J. Barrett	Third Middlesex	2/25/2021
Liz Miranda	5th Suffolk	2/26/2021
Mindy Domb	3rd Hampshire	3/18/2021
Lindsay N. Sabadosa	1st Hampshire	3/5/2021
Jack Patrick Lewis	7th Middlesex	7/22/2021

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1532) of Marjorie C. Decker and others relative to the notification of voter eligibility status of ex-offenders. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION SEE HOUSE, NO. 1384 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court (2021-2022)

An Act combating misinformation about ex-offender voting rights.

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 51 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is hereby
- 2 amended by inserting after section 66 the following section:-

Section 67. (a) Any person who is convicted of a felony, as defined in section 1 of
chapter 274, in the commonwealth, but is not sentenced to incarceration in a jail or correctional
facility, shall be notified in writing by the ruling court, immediately following such conviction
and sentencing, of his or her voter eligibility, and shall confirm, in writing, that he or she was so
notified.

8 (b) A probation officer shall immediately notify, in writing, any person that is placed in 9 their care, who was convicted of a felony or incarcerated due to a felony conviction, of said person's voter eligibility status, shall provide said person with written information on voter eligibility and voter registration, and shall obtain written confirmation from said person that he or she was so notified.

(c) A parole officer shall immediately notify, in writing, any person that is placed in their
care, who was incarcerated due to a felony conviction, of said person's voter eligibility status,
shall provide said person with written information on voter eligibility and voter registration, and
shall obtain written confirmation from said person that he or she was so notified.

(d) Any person who is incarcerated due to a felony conviction shall, upon release from a
jail or correctional facility, be notified, in writing, by said jail or facility of his or her voter
eligibility and provided with written voter eligibility and voter registration information, and shall
confirm, in writing, that he or she was so notified.

(e) The office of the commissioner of probation shall notify, in writing, any person that was convicted of a felony by a court of the commonwealth within the period of 10 years prior to the effective date of this section, who is not currently incarcerated, of their voter eligibility, shall provide said person with written voter eligibility and voter registration information and shall obtain written confirmation from said person that he or she was so notified.

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