

HOUSE No. 3828

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven Ultrino and Paul J. Donato

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 the preparation of certain bilingual ballots in the city of Malden.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>4/8/2021</i>
<i>Paul J. Donato</i>	<i>35th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/20/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 3828

By Messrs. Ultrino of Malden and Donato of Medford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3828) of Steven Ultrino and Paul J. Donato (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the preparation of certain bilingual ballots in the city of Malden. Election Laws. [Local Approval Received.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the preparation of certain bilingual ballots in the city of Malden.

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. (a) As used in this section, the word "transliteration" shall mean the
2 translation into the relevant Chinese characters to represent the phonetic equivalent of the
3 syllables of an English name or a name in a language that is not traditionally written using
4 Chinese characters.

5 (b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, in any state or federal
6 primary or election, in which the state secretary is required by federal law to print bilingual
7 ballots in English and Chinese for use by voters of the city of Malden, the state secretary shall
8 also provide for the transliteration of all candidates' names.

9 (c) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, in any city preliminary
10 election, primary or election in which the city clerk is required by federal law to print bilingual

11 ballots in English and Chinese for use by the voters of the city of Malden, the city clerk shall also
12 provide for the transliteration of all candidates' names.

13 (d) Each candidate shall be provided with a written copy of the proposed transliteration of
14 that candidate's name. Within 7 days after receiving the proposed transliteration of the
15 candidate's name, the candidate may request in writing any modification to the proposed
16 transliteration of a candidate's own name or may decline to have the candidate's own name
17 transliterated on the ballot. Any potential candidate may submit their name for transliteration
18 after January 1st of that election year. The transliteration shall be subject to final approval by the
19 state secretary or city clerk, as the case may be. The state secretary or city clerk shall provide
20 public notice of transliterated names as soon as practicable.

21 (e) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the city of Malden in any
22 city preliminary election, primary or election or in any state or federal primary or election shall
23 be responsible for the cost of transliteration and the state secretary shall be responsible for all
24 other costs resulting from the implementation of this act including, without limitation, the
25 production of ballots.

26 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.