

SENATE No. 94

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Julian Cyr

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 a low vision registry.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Julian Cyr</i> | <i>Cape and Islands</i> | |
| <i>Timothy R. Whelan</i> | <i>1st Barnstable</i> | <i>2/24/2021</i> |

SENATE No. 94

By Mr. Cyr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 94) of Julian Cyr and Timothy R. Whelan for legislation to establish a low vision registry. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 34 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act establishing a low vision registry.

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 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by inserting after section 135 the following section:-

3 Section 135A. The Commissioner, in consultation with the department of public health
4 and the executive office of elder affairs, shall create a registry list of persons whose visual acuity
5 is found to be with correction 20/60 or less in the better eye, or the peripheral field of vision to
6 have contracted to the ten degrees radius or less regardless of visual acuity. Said register shall be
7 used to aid the commission in efforts to measure the numbers of likely future registrants to the
8 Commonwealth Registry of the Blind. Such persons shall not be eligible for services from the
9 Commission until the standard of legal blindness is met.

10 The reporting requirements contained in section 136 of this chapter shall apply to this
11 section.