

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3403**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Edward R. Philips*

*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 holiday known as "John F. Kennedy Day" to promote civic engagement and voter participation in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Edward R. Philips</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>
<i>James C. Arena-DeRosa</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/13/2025</i>

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By Representative Philips of Sharon, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3403) of Edward R. Philips and James C. Arena-DeRosa for legislation to establish a John F. Kennedy day holiday commission. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3099 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act establishing a holiday known as "John F. Kennedy Day" to promote civic engagement and voter participation in the Commonwealth.

*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 7 of chapter 4 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "October," in line 100, the  
3 following words:- John F. Kennedy Day.

4           SECTION 2. Section 15L of chapter 6 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
5 amended by inserting after the word "November", in line 2, the following words:- in all odd-  
6 numbered years and the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in all even-numbered  
7 years.

8           SECTION 3. Said chapter 6 is hereby further amended by adding the following section:-

9           Section 220. There shall be a commission on the celebration of John F. Kennedy Day.  
10   The commission shall consist of: 2 persons to be appointed by the governor; 2 persons to be  
11   appointed by the state secretary, 1 of whom shall be designated to serve as chair; 1 person to be  
12   appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; 1 person to be appointed by the  
13   minority leader of the house of representatives; 1 person to be appointed by the president of the  
14   senate; 1 person to be appointed by the minority leader of the senate; 1 person to be appointed by  
15   the executive director of the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation; 1 person to be appointed by  
16   the president of the John F. Kennedy Hyannis Museum Foundation, Inc.; and 1 person to be  
17   appointed by the president of the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate.

18           The commission shall recommend activities that promote civic engagement and voter  
19   participation including, but not limited to: (i) establishing a Kindergarten to grade 12, inclusive,  
20   education curriculum; (ii) hosting special events; (iii) marketing, which shall include the  
21   publication and distribution of materials and online content; (iv) voter engagement activities; (v)  
22   voter registration drives; and (vi) voter access. The commission shall meet not less than  
23   semiannually. The commission shall issue an annual report to the clerks of the senate and house  
24   of representatives not later than December 31.