

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 771**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Tara T. Hong*

*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 intergenerational community engagement.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Tara T. Hong</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/8/2025</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/9/2025</i>
<i>Samantha Montaño</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/5/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 771**

---

By Representative Hong of Lowell, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 771) of Tara T. Hong, Colleen M. Garry and Samantha Montañó relative to intergenerational community engagement. Elder Affairs.

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to intergenerational community engagement.

*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 19A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the  
2 following section:-

3 Section 45. (a) The department shall establish and administer a statewide community  
4 connect program where individuals, including students and working adults, can volunteer to  
5 assist seniors with the following:

6 (i) developing technological skills including, but not limited to: using smartphones, video  
7 calls or emails;

8 (ii) assisting with daily tasks such as grocery shopping or other errands; and

9 (iii) providing companionship through regular visits or activities.

10 (b) Subject to appropriation, the department shall establish senior resources centers  
11 within senior living facilities and senior community centers. The senior resources centers shall  
12 provide the following:

13 (i) health services, including basic health check-ups, screenings and preventive care  
14 resources for seniors;

15 (ii) counseling, including mental health support, grief counseling and stress management;

16 (iii) legal aid, including free or low-cost legal advice on wills, housing rights and elder  
17 abuse protection; and

18 (iv) workshops, including information sessions on financial literacy, healthy aging and  
19 technology usage.

20 (c) Students who volunteer for the community connect program shall be eligible for  
21 credits towards community service.

22 (d) The department shall establish and distribute community service awards recognizing  
23 individuals who have volunteered for the community connect program.

24 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect 1 year after its passage.