

HOUSE No. 776

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jack Patrick Lewis and Hadley Luddy

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 LGBT and HIV-positive seniors in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Hadley Luddy</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>	<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>John Francis Moran</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>	<i>4/9/2025</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>5/8/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 776

By Representatives Lewis of Framingham and Luddy of Orleans, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 776) of Jack Patrick Lewis and Hadley Luddy relative to racial and ethnic status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression or HIV status of seniors. Elder Affairs.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 636 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to LGBT and HIV-positive seniors 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 Chapter 19A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

2 Section 44. For the purposes of administering the federal Older Americans Act of 1965
3 and subsequent amendments thereto, the term "greatest social need", as defined in 42 U.S.C.
4 3002(24), shall mean the need caused by non-economic factors that restrict an individual's ability
5 to perform normal daily tasks or that threaten the individual's capacity to live independently.
6 These factors shall include, but are not limited to, physical or mental disability, language barriers
7 and cultural or social isolation caused by, among other things, racial and ethnic status, sexual
8 orientation, gender identity or expression or HIV status.