

HOUSE No. 854

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joan Meschino

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 youth voter engagement.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Joan Meschino</i>	<i>3rd Plymouth</i>	<i>1/9/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 854

By Representative Meschino of Hull, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 854) of Joan Meschino for legislation to provide for voter pre-registration for persons 17 years of age. Election Laws.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 705 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to youth voter 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. Section 1 of chapter 51 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence the following sentence:-
3 Every pre-registrant registered under section 47A, who is 17 years of age, may vote pursuant to
4 section 47A.

5 SECTION 2. Section 47A of said chapter 51, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
6 striking out the last sentence and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:- Subsequent
7 to such pre-registration, a pre-registrant who is 17 years of age, when pre-registered as provided
8 in this section, shall be eligible to vote at any preliminary or primary election to be held if they
9 shall be the age of 18 years at the time of the subsequent special or general election and no other

- 10 pre-registrant shall be allowed to vote until the pre-registrant obtains full age unless otherwise
- 11 permitted by law.