

HOUSE No. 861

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 authorizing local voting rights for permanent resident aliens residing in Sharon.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Edward R. Philips</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 861

By Representative Philips of Sharon, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 861) of Edward R. Philips (by vote of the town) that the town of Sharon be authorized to grant local voting rights for permanent resident aliens in said town. Election Laws. [Local Approval Received.]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3899 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act authorizing local voting rights for permanent resident aliens residing in Sharon.

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. Notwithstanding the provisions of section one of Chapter fifty-one of the
2 General Laws, or any other general or special law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, residents of
3 the town of Sharon who are aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United
4 States and who meet all qualifications for registering to vote except U.S. citizenship, may, upon
5 application, have their names entered on a register of qualified permanent resident alien voters
6 and may thereafter vote in any election for local offices, local ballot questions, and at Town
7 Meeting.

8 SECTION 2. The Sharon Select Board is authorized to formulate regulations and
9 guidelines to implement the purpose of this act.

10 SECTION 3. Nothing in this act shall be construed to confer upon permanent resident
11 aliens the right to vote for any state or federal office or any state or federal ballot question.