

HOUSE No. 874

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Erika Uytterhoeven

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 voting rights restoration.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Erika Uytterhoeven</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/9/2025</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>3/18/2025</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>9/21/2025</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>9/21/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 874

By Representative Uyterhoeven of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 874) of Erika Uyterhoeven for legislation to restore voting rights to incarcerated felons. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to voting rights restoration.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to restore voting rights to incarcerated felons, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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 50 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 138 and 139, the following words:-
3 “, except if by reason of a felony conviction”.

4 SECTION 2. Section 1 of chapter 51 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
5 amended by striking out, in lines 2 and 3, the following words:- “or incarcerated in a correctional
6 facility due to a felony conviction,”.