

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sean Garballey

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 uniformity of ballots in polling places.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/9/2025</i>

HOUSE No.

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 4689 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to uniformity of ballots in polling places.

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 44 of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 Ballots for an election shall be uniform in size, material and content for all voters,
4 regardless of whether the ballot is voted on a ballot-marking device or directly on a paper ballot;
5 provided, however, the state secretary may provide ballots that are not uniform when necessary
6 to: (i) comply with federal law; (ii) accommodate voting or tabulating; or (iii) accommodate
7 hand count tabulation methods. Ballots shall be tabulated directly from the voter-marked
8 selections and not from a barcode, QR code or other representation not marked by the voter,
9 either on a ballot-marking device or directly on paper.