

SENATE No. 489

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael F. Rush

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 establishing a statewide volunteer program to assist seniors.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Michael F. Rush

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Norfolk and Suffolk

SENATE No. 489

By Mr. Rush, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 489) of Michael F. Rush for legislation to establish the adopt a senior program. Elder Affairs.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 400 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act establishing a statewide volunteer program to assist seniors.

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 40 of chapter 19A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following section:-

3 Section 41. The secretary shall, subject to appropriation or the receipt of gifts, grants,
4 and awards from any public or private entity pursuant to section 7 of chapter 19A, establish a
5 statewide volunteer program for the purpose of assisting seniors with snow removal, property or
6 home maintenance services. The department shall have the power to adopt rules and regulations
7 to administer this program which shall include, but not be limited to: (1) coordinating among
8 agencies of the commonwealth and other organizations using community service and
9 volunteerism as a strategy to assist with this program; (2) establishing a registry and registration
10 of volunteer personnel who are available to provide services; (3) establishing procedures for

11 matching and placing individuals with seniors; (4) encouraging the corporate community of the
12 commonwealth to become an active partner in the support, advocacy and promotion of
13 community service and volunteerism relative to this program; and (5) establishing a system of
14 volunteer incentives to assist with recruiting and registration of volunteers.