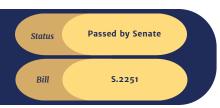
ID CARDS FOR UNHOUSED RESIDENTS



An Act to provide identification to youth and adults experiencing homelessness

An ID card opens the door to applying for jobs, enrolling in school, and opening a bank account.

The Senate's bill removes financial barriers to an ID for people experiencing homelessness, empowering people to access the services and institutions that help Massachusetts residents move forward.

The bill was passed by the Senate on July 27, 2023.

Highlights

Allows people experiencing homelessness to apply for a free Massachusetts ID.

45,491

The number of people experiencing homelessness in Massachusetts in 2023, according to the Rehousing Data Collective

- Eliminates fees and only requires applicants to provide documentation showing they are receiving support services, instead of traditional documentation like utility bills or leases.
- 3 Includes unaccompanied homeless youth in the state.



When we listen to our homeless youth about the challenges they face, there is a common denominator and that is access to identification. Having proper identification is the foundation to accessing food, shelter, and employment opportunities, while also breaking the cycle of poverty.

- Senator Robyn K. Kennedy (D-Worcester)

