

HOUSE No. 01113

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Shaunna O'Connell

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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act requiring photo identification for voters casting provisional ballots.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Shaunna O'Connell</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>
<i>Geoff Diehl</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Patricia A. Haddad</i>	<i>5th Bristol</i>
<i>Sheila Harrington</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>
<i>Randy Hunt</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kevin Kuros</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>
<i>Steven L. Levy</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>
<i>Elizabeth Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>George Ross</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Daniel K. Webster</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>
<i>Donald Wong</i>	<i>9th Essex</i>

HOUSE No. 01113

By [prefix] Shaunna O'Connell of Taunton, petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 01113) of Donald Wong and others relative to photo identification for voters casting provisional ballots.
Joint Committee on Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act requiring photo identification for voters casting provisional ballots.

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 75 of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended,
2 by adding at the end thereof the following language:

3 Any election officer who in any way fails to follow the procedures and guidelines enumerated by
4 this chapter or the election day procedures and regulations provided by the Secretary of State
5 shall be subject to a written citation for the first recorded offense, and shall be relieved of duties
6 for any subsequent offense.

7 SECTION 2. Subsection (c) of section 76C of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in
8 the 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 16, “requested to present
9 identification when completing a provisional ballot. Failure to present identification shall not
10 prevent the voter from completing a provisional ballot.” and inserting in place thereof the
11 following—required to present valid, photo identification when completing a provisional ballot.

12 Failure to present identification either immediately or under the provisions of Section 4,
13 subsection 1 shall cause such provisional ballot to be discarded.

14 SECTION 3. Section 76C of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official
15 Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following language at the end of subsection (c):

16 “Valid photo identification” shall mean a document that:

17 (1) shows the name of the individual to whom the document was issued, and the name
18 conforms to the name of the individual’s voter registration record;

19 (2) shows a photograph of the individual to whom the document was issued;

20 (3) includes an expiration date, and the document is not expired or expired after the date of the
21 most recent general election; and

22 (4) was issued by the commonwealth of Massachusetts or the government of the United States.

23 (5) includes the individual’s current address within the district for which they are voting.

24 (2) (a) A person seeking to vote that does not provide sufficient valid photo identification as
25 defined in subsection (a) of this section may be challenged under section 85 of this chapter.

26 SECTION 4. Section 76C of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
27 amended, by adding after subsection (k) the following new subsection:--

28 (l) A voter who fails to provide valid photo identification as defined under section 76C and casts
29 a provisional ballot shall be required to provide such identification in person to the city or town
30 clerk, or elections board or commission, of the municipality in which they reside, within 8
31 business days from the date of the election in which the provisional ballot was cast. A voter who

- 32 fails to provide such identification in the time specified shall forfeit that vote, and that
- 33 provisional ballot shall be discarded.