

HOUSE No. 143

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marc T. Lombardo

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 the utilization of the systematic alien verification for entitlements program by the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Marc T. Lombardo

22nd Middlesex

Shaunna L. O'Connell

3rd Bristol

HOUSE No. 143

By Mr. Lombardo of Billerica, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 143) of Marc T. Lombardo and Shaunna L. O'Connell relative to eligibility for certain entitlement programs. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 103 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act relative to the utilization of the systematic alien verification for entitlements program by the Commonwealth.

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. Subsection B of section 2 of chapter 18 of the General Laws, as appearing
2 in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following clause:-

3 (t) verify that an applicant for benefits through any transitional assistance financial
4 assistance program administered by the department is a United States citizens or lawfully present
5 alien prior to providing any benefits. The department shall register for the systematic alien
6 verification for entitlements program established by the United States Citizenship and
7 Immigration Services and shall use said program to verify an applicant’s eligibility pursuant to
8 this clause.

9 SECTION 2. Section 3 of chapter 23B of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
10 amended by adding the following subsection:-

11 (w) verify that an applicant for benefits through any housing program for low and
12 moderate income families administered by the department is a United States citizens or lawfully
13 present alien prior to providing any benefits. The department shall register for the systematic
14 alien verification for entitlements program established by the United States Citizenship and
15 Immigration Services and shall use said program to verify an applicant's eligibility pursuant to
16 this paragraph.

17 SECTION 3 . Section 2 of chapter 111I of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
18 amended by adding the following paragraph:-

19 The department of public health shall verify that an applicant for benefits through the
20 WIC program is a United States citizens or lawfully present alien prior to providing any benefits.
21 The department shall register for the systematic alien verification for entitlements program
22 established by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and shall use said
23 program to verify a beneficiary's eligibility pursuant to this paragraph.

24 SECTION 4. Section 9A of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as so appearing, is
25 hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

26 (17) The division shall verify that a beneficiary is a United States citizens or lawfully
27 present alien prior to providing any medical benefits through MassHealth. The division shall
28 register for the systematic alien verification for entitlements program established by the United
29 States Citizenship and Immigration Services and shall use said program to verify a beneficiary's
30 eligibility pursuant to this paragraph.