

HOUSE No. 278

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven G. Xiarhos

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 low vision registry.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Steven G. Xiarhos</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>1/20/2021</i>
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>	<i>1/21/2021</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	<i>1/22/2021</i>
<i>Dylan A. Fernandes</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>	<i>1/26/2021</i>
<i>Susan L. Moran</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>	<i>1/27/2021</i>
<i>Kip A. Diggs</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>	<i>1/27/2021</i>
<i>Sally P. Kerans</i>	<i>13th Essex</i>	<i>2/19/2021</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>2/22/2021</i>
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 278

By Mr. Xiarhos of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 278) of Steven G. Xiarhos and others relative to establishing a low vision registry. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act establishing a low vision registry.

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. Chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by inserting after section 135 the following section:-

3 Section 135A. The Commissioner, in consultation with the department of public health
4 and the executive office of elder affairs, shall create a registry list of persons whose visual acuity
5 is found to be with correction 20/60 or less in the better eye, or the peripheral field of vision to
6 have contracted to the ten degrees radius or less regardless of visual acuity. Said register shall be
7 used to aid the commission in efforts to measure the numbers of likely future registrants to the
8 Commonwealth Registry of the Blind. Such persons shall not be eligible for services from the
9 Commission until the standard of legal blindness is met.

10 The reporting requirements contained in section 136 of this chapter shall apply to this
11 section.