

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 594**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Alice Hanlon Peisch*

*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 absentee ballots.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Alice Hanlon Peisch*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*14th Norfolk*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 594**

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By Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 594) of Alice Hanlon Peisch relative to absentee ballots. Election Laws.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 625 OF 2013-2014.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to absentee 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 89 of Chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the third sentence and inserting in place  
3 thereof the following sentence:-

4 An application by a voter admitted to a health care facility or confined to a hospice or  
5 home health care may be received up until the time the polls close.

6 SECTION 2. Subsection (c) of said Section 91B of said Chapter 54 of the General Laws,  
7 as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the words “after  
8 noon of the fifth day before the relevant election,” and inserting in place thereof the following  
9 words:-

10           , or has been confined to a hospice program, as defined in section fifty-seven D of chapter  
11 one hundred and eleven, or has been receiving home health care,

12           SECTION 3. Section 86 of said Chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in the  
13 2010 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the first sentence the following  
14 sentence:-

15           Any voter employed by a city or town in the Commonwealth on the day of, and in the  
16 conduct of, any state primary, state election, preliminary city or town election, regular or special,  
17 and whose application for an official absent voting ballot has been filed with the city or town  
18 clerk as provided in section eighty-nine, and certified under section ninety-one, may vote in  
19 accordance with sections eighty-seven to one hundred and three, inclusive.