

HOUSE No. 648

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Shawn Dooley

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 regulating certain activities at polling locations.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Shawn Dooley</i> | <i>9th Norfolk</i> |
| <i>Angelo L. D'Emilia</i> | <i>8th Plymouth</i> |
| <i>Michael J. Soter</i> | <i>8th Worcester</i> |
| <i>David F. DeCoste</i> | <i>5th Plymouth</i> |

HOUSE No. 648

By Mr. Dooley of Norfolk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 648) of Shawn Dooley and others for legislation to further regulate certain activities at polling locations. Election Laws.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2901 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act regulating certain activities at polling locations.

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 65 of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after the third paragraph the following paragraph:-

3 On any day during the early voting period that votes are being cast for an election of state
4 or city officers, and of town officers in towns where official ballots are used, or on any day that a
5 location is accepting in-person absentee voting or submissions of absentee ballots for such
6 election, no person shall: (i) solicit votes for or against or to promote or oppose any person,
7 political party, or position on a ballot question to be voted on at such election; (ii) collect
8 signatures upon petitions, referendum petitions or nomination papers; or (iii) post, circulate or
9 distribute pasters, commonly called stickers, posters, cards, handbills, placards, pictures or other
10 circulars intended to influence the action of the voter in the building where an early voting

11 location or location for in-person absentee voting or submission of absentee ballots is located, on
12 the walls thereof, on the premises on which the building stands, or within 50 feet of the building
13 entrance door to the early voting location or the location for in-person absentee voting or
14 submission of absentee ballots.