

**SENATE . . . . . No. 00309**

---

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESENTED BY:

*Brian A. Joyce*

\_\_\_\_\_

*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 relative to polling place safety..

\_\_\_\_\_  
PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Brian A. Joyce*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Norfolk, Bristol, and Plymouth*

# SENATE . . . . . No. 00309

---

By Mr. Joyce, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 309) of Joyce for legislation relative to polling place safety [Joint Committee on Election Laws].

---

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE  
□ SENATE  
□ , NO. 350 OF 2009-2010.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————  
**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
—————

An Act relative to polling place safety..

*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 24 of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
2 inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:-

3 The aldermen in cities, except where city or town charters provide otherwise, and the  
4 selectmen of towns divided into voting precincts, shall not designate any school building or  
5 school premises as a polling place for any voting precinct, unless they have made every  
6 reasonable effort to find or provide for a suitable alternative venue. Any school building or  
7 school premises that is designated as a polling place shall be open for polling and voting  
8 purposes only and no session of school shall be held in said building or premises on the day of  
9 any special or general election. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph, school staff

- 10 development days may be held on the day of any special or general election at the discretion of
- 11 the local school superintendent and/or school committee.