

**SENATE . . . . . No. 384**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Michael J. Barrett***

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*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 to increase voter participation.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Michael J. Barrett*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Third Middlesex*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 384**

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By Mr. Barrett, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 384) of Michael J. Barrett for legislation to increase voter participation. Election Laws.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act to increase voter participation.

*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 149 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by striking out section 178, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition,  
3 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

4           Section 178. Employees who do not have sufficient time outside of their regular working  
5 schedule to vote in a statewide or federal election, shall be afforded by their employer up to two  
6 hours of working time, without loss of pay, to vote. An employer may require an employee  
7 voting during working time to take such time at the beginning or end of the employee’s regular  
8 working shift. An employee taking time off to vote shall give their employer at least two days  
9 notice. Every employer shall clearly post in the place of work where it can be seen by  
10 employees a notice setting forth the provisions of this section.