

HOUSE No. 01970

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Tackey Chan

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 the street list.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>
<i>Joseph F. Wagner</i>	<i>8th Hampden</i>
<i>Gailanne Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>

HOUSE No. 01970

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1970) of Cariddi and others relative to the annual street list for voters Joint Committee on Election Laws.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
□ HOUSE
□ , NO. 551 OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to the street list.

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 4 of chapter 51 of the General Laws, as most recently amended by
2 section 11 of chapter 384 of the acts of 2000, is hereby amended by striking out said section 4
3 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

4 Section 4. (a) Registrars, assistant registrars, or boards having similar duties under any general or
5 special law, except in the city of Boston, shall annually in January or February visit or
6 communicate with the residents of each building in their respective cities and towns and, after
7 diligent inquiry, shall make true lists containing, as nearly as they can ascertain, the name, date
8 of birth, occupation, veteran status, nationality, if not a citizen of the United States, and residence
9 on January 1 of the preceding year, and the current year, of each person residing in their

10 respective cities and towns. Said lists and the information contained therein shall not be a matter
11 of public record, provided however, that said lists shall, upon written request, be available for
12 federal, state and local governmental use. A list of all persons under 21 years of age, inclusive,
13 shall be transmitted by the board of registrars to the respective school committee not later than
14 April 1 of each year. The list shall contain the name, residence and age or date of birth of each
15 such person, but said names shall not be disclosed to any person other than the respective school
16 committee or board of trustees of a county agricultural school or their designated representatives.
17 That proportion of any expenses incurred by the registrars under this section, equal to the
18 proportion that the number of persons under 17 years of age bears to the total number of persons
19 listed thereunder, shall be carried as an item in the school committee budget.

20 (b) In the city of Boston, the registrars, assistant registrars or boards having similar duties under
21 any general or special law, shall annually in January or February visit or communicate with the
22 residents of each building in said city and, after diligent inquiry, shall make true lists containing,
23 as nearly as they can ascertain, the name, date of birth, occupation, veterans status, nationality if
24 not a citizen of the United States, and residence on January 1 of the preceding year and the
25 current year, of each person 17 years of age or older residing in said city. Said lists and the
26 information contained therein shall not be a matter of public record, provided however, that said
27 lists shall, upon written request, be available for federal, state and local governmental use. (c)

28 In any city or town which communicates with residents by mail for the purposes of obtaining
29 such information, the communication shall state in boldface type on the postcard, envelope and
30 printed material contained in such communication the following statement: "Warning: Failure to
31 respond to this mailing shall result in removal from the active voting list and may result in
32 removal from the voter registrations rolls." Registrars, assistant registrars or boards in such

33 cities or towns communicating with residents by mail for the purposes of obtaining such
34 information may require a response under the penalties of perjury.

35 (d) The name and address of any person who provides the registrars with a copy of a court order
36 granting protection, or evidence of residence in a protective shelter, or an affidavit signed by a
37 chief of police or his designee that said person is entitled to have certain information withheld
38 from the public under section 24C of chapter 265, shall not appear on the street list and such
39 names shall not be disclosed to any person. The information collected under this section
40 regarding a person's status as a veteran shall not be a public record and shall only be disclosed to
41 the adjutant general and commissioner of veterans' services.

42 SECTION 2. Chapter 51 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Official Edition, is
43 hereby amended by striking out section 6 in its entirety

44 SECTION 3. Chapter 51 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking
45 out section out 7 in its entirety.

46 SECTION 4. Chapter 51 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding to the end of section
47 11, as so appearing, the following sentence:- Said book and the information contained therein
48 shall not be a matter of public record, provided however, that said book shall, upon written
49 request, be available for federal, state and local governmental use.

50 SECTION 5. Chapter 51 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 47C, as
51 so appearing, and inserting in place hereof the following:- Section 47C, Subject to appropriation,
52 the state secretary shall maintain a central registry of voters which shall contain, if provided by
53 the registrars, the names, addresses and effective dates of registration of all registered voters in
54 the commonwealth and which shall contain the name, date of birth, occupation, nationality, if not

55 a citizen of the United States, for street list purposes only, and residence on January first in the
56 preceding year and the current year, of every person in the commonwealth, and shall adopt
57 regulations governing the operation of said central registry. All information contained in said
58 central registry shall not be a matter of public record, provided however, that all such
59 information shall be available to the jury commissioner; that veteran status information shall be
60 available to the adjutant general and the commissioner of veterans' services; and that information
61 regarding the names, addresses, political designations and effective dates of registration of
62 registered voters shall be available to state party committees, statewide candidate committees,
63 state ballot question committees, and any other individual, agency or entity that the state
64 secretary shall designate by regulation consistent with the purposes of this section, at fair and
65 reasonable cost not to exceed the cost of printing or preparing computer readable documents.