

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 00206**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

*Thomas M. Stanley*

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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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the collection of signatures for initiative and referendum petitions.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 00206

By Mr. Stanley of Waltham, petition (accompanied by Bill, House, No. 00206) of Thomas M. Stanley and others relative to the collection of signatures for initiative and referendum petitions. Joint Committee on Election Laws.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE  
□ HOUSE  
□ , NO. 571 OF 2009-2010.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act relative to the collection of signatures for initiative and referendum petitions.

□.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

- 1 Chapter 53 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
- 2 inserting after section 22A the following section:— Section 22A½. Any person who collects, or
- 3 attempts to collect, signatures for an initiative or referendum petition shall, at all times he is
- 4 actively engaged in such activity wear a sticker, button, or other similar such marking on a
- 5 conspicuous place on the outer layer of his clothing readily visible to persons being solicited. All
- 6 words on such sticker, button, or other similar marking shall be in at least 14-point type size.
- 7 Such sticker, button, or other similar marking shall contain at least the following information: (a)
- 8 the first and last names of the person soliciting signatures; (b) the full name of the person,

9 corporation, organization, committee, or other entity on behalf of whom the person is soliciting  
10 signatures; (c) the full names of all persons, corporations, organizations, committees, or other  
11 entities hired or retained by the entity named in (b) above for the purpose of obtaining signatures;  
12 and (d) a statement disclosing how much, if any, compensation the person is receiving for  
13 soliciting signatures, provided, however, that if said person is compensated on a per-signature  
14 basis, the statement shall read "I am being paid \$ (insert amount) for each signature I collect,"  
15 and provided further, that if said person is compensated on an hourly basis, that statement shall  
16 read "I am being paid \$(insert amount) per hour to collect these signatures." Any person who  
17 collects, or attempts to collect, signatures for an incentive or referendum petition, and who fails  
18 to comply with the provisions of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than five  
19 hundred dollars, and in addition, the person, corporation, organization, committee, or other entity  
20 on behalf of whom the person is soliciting signatures shall also be punished by a fine of not less  
21 than five thousand dollars for each individual violation. The secretary of state may promulgate  
22 rules and regulations interpreting the provisions of this section.