

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3986**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

*Natalie Higgins and John C. Velis*

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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 authorizing the display of flags in condominiums.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Natalie Higgins*

*4th Worcester*

*John C. Velis*

*4th Hampden*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3986**

By Representatives Higgins of Leominster and Velis of Westfield, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Natalie Higgins and John C. Velis relative to the display of certain flags in condominiums. Housing.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**

An Act authorizing the display of flags in condominiums.

*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 183A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

2 Section 24. (a) Notwithstanding any provision in the master deed, declaration, covenants,  
3 bylaws, resolutions, rules or regulations of an organization of unit owners or of a corporation,  
4 trust or unincorporated association provided for in the master deed for the management and  
5 regulation of a condominium, such organization or association shall not prohibit a unit owner or  
6 resident from displaying any of the following flags outdoors, provided that such flags are  
7 displayed within an area over which the unit owner or resident has exclusive control:

8 (i) the flag of the United States, which shall have the same meaning as the term “flag,  
9 standard, colors, or ensign” pursuant to section 3 of title 4 of the United States Code, and shall be  
10 displayed in accordance with sections 5 through 10, inclusive, of said title 4 of the United States  
11 Code;

12 (ii) any flag of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard;

13 (iii) the Prisoner Of War/Missing In Action flag; and

14 (iv) the flag of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

15 (b) Every corporation, trust or unincorporated association provided for in the master deed  
16 for the management and regulation of a condominium and every organization of unit owners  
17 shall adopt reasonable rules and regulations regarding the placement and manner of display of  
18 the aforementioned flags that is not inconsistent with this section.