

HOUSE No. 794

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Tami L. Gouveia and Michael J. Barrett

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 establishing healthy voting habits among youth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/25/2021</i>
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>	<i>1/28/2021</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	<i>2/3/2021</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Danillo A. Sena</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 794

By Representative Gouveia of Acton and Senator Barrett, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 794) of Tami L. Gouveia, Michael J. Barrett and others for legislation to lower the voting age in local elections. Election Laws.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 662 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act establishing healthy voting habits among youth.

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 51 Section 1 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking
2 out (a) “any such election” and place therein “any state or federal election.”

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 51 of the General Laws in hereby amended by inserting after
4 section 1F the following section:-

5 Section 1G. Voting for Citizens 16 years of age and older in city or town elections

6 Every citizen sixteen years of age or older, not being a person under guardianship or
7 incarcerated in a correctional facility due to a felony conviction, and not being temporarily or
8 permanently disqualified by law because of corrupt practices in respect to elections, who is a
9 resident in the city or town where they claim the right to vote at the time they register, and who

10 resides in a city or town where the city council, town meeting, selectboard, or other form of town
11 governance granted right to vote by majority vote, and who has complied with the requirements
12 of this chapter, may have their name entered on the list of voters in such city or town, and may
13 vote therein in any such municipal, or except insofar as restricted in any town in which a
14 representative town meeting form of government has been established, in any meeting held for
15 the transaction of town affairs. Notwithstanding any special law to the contrary, every such
16 citizen who resides within the boundaries of any district, as defined in section one A of chapter
17 forty-one, may vote for district officers and in any district meeting thereof, and no other person
18 may so vote.