

HOUSE No. 681

By Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, petition of Alice Hanlon Peisch relative to absentee ballots. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO ABSENTEE BALLOTS.

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 89 of chapter 54 of the Massachusetts
2 General Laws as appearing in the 2000 Official Edition is hereby
3 amended by striking out the third sentence and inserting in place
4 thereof the following sentence:— An application by a voter admitted
5 to a health care facility or confined to a hospice or home health care
6 may be received up until the time the polls close.

1 SECTION 2. Section 91B of chapter 54(b) of the Massachusetts
2 General Laws as appearing in the 2000 Official Edition is hereby
3 amended by inserting after the word “prepaid” in line 5 the word
4 “forthwith”.

1 SECTION 3. Section 91B of chapter 54(c) of the Massachusetts
2 General Laws as appearing in the 2000 Official Edition is hereby
3 amended by striking out, in line 21, the words “after noon of the
4 fifth day” and inserting in place thereof the following words:— has
5 been confined to a hospice program as defined in section 57D of
6 chapter one hundred eleven, or has been receiving home health care.

1 SECTION 4. Section 86 of Chapter 54, as so appearing, is hereby
2 amended by inserting after the first sentence the following sen-
3 tence:— Any voter employed by a city or town in the Common-
4 wealth on the day of, and in the conduct of, any state primary, state
5 election, preliminary city or town election, regular or special, and
6 whose application for an official absent voting ballot has been filed

7 with the city or town clerk as provided in section eighty-nine, and
8 certified under section ninety-one, may vote in accordance with sec-
9 tions eighty-seven to one hundred and three, inclusive.