INITIATIVE PETITION FOR A LAW TO REQUIRE VOTER IDENTIFICATION IN MASSACHUSETTS

Be it enacted by the People, and by their authority:

SECTION 1. Chapter 54 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following Section 163:

"(a) To affirm the integrity of the electoral process, before being given a ballot at a polling place, each prospective voter must present identification to a properly designated poll worker, which identification must have been issued by a branch of the United States government or of the Commonwealth or by a tribal authority recognized by either the United States or the Commonwealth and must include a picture of the prospective voter, and the poll worker must verify and confirm the identity of the prospective voter using the identification presented. Should any prospective voter fail to present such identification, such prospective voter must execute an affidavit, subscribed to and witnessed by the poll worker, attesting to their identity, residence, citizenship, and date of birth, and the poll worker must verify and confirm that the prospective voter's signature on the affidavit matches that prospective voter's signature already on file with the election officials in the city or town where the prospective voter intends to vote, in which case such prospective voter shall be given a ballot. Before each prospective voter is given a ballot at a polling place, the poll worker shall verify and confirm that each prospective voter appears on the list of registered voters who are eligible to vote in the city or town where the prospective voter intends to vote and meets the requirements set forth in Chapter 51, Section 1 of the General Laws. Should any prospective voter fail to satisfy any of the requirements set forth in this subsection, that prospective voter shall be allowed to deposit a provisional ballot pursuant to Section 76C of this Chapter provided, however, such prospective voter executes an affidavit, subscribed to and witnessed by the poll worker, attesting to their identity, residence, citizenship, and date of birth. Such provisional ballot will be counted only if the city or town clerk verifies and confirms (i) that the prospective voter appears on the list of registered voters who are eligible to vote in the city or town where the prospective voter intends to vote, (ii) that the prospective voter's signature on the affidavit matches that prospective voter's signature already on file with the election officials in the city or town where the prospective voter intends to vote, and (iii) that the prospective voter meets the requirements set forth in Chapter 51, Section 1 of the General Laws.

"(b) Each prospective voter voting pursuant to Section 25B, or Sections 86 through 103, of Chapter 54 of the General Laws shall include in the inner envelope with their completed ballot a photocopy of their identification, which identification must have been issued by a branch of the United States government or of the Commonwealth or by a tribal authority recognized by either the United States or the Commonwealth and must include a picture of the prospective voter. Should any prospective voter fail to include such identification, such prospective voter must attest to his or her identity, residence, citizenship, and date of birth on the affidavit of compliance. The person designated to open ballot envelopes pursuant to Section 94 of this Chapter shall verify and confirm (i) the identity of the prospective voter using the identification, if any, included in the inner envelope, (ii) that each prospective voter appears on the list of registered voters who are eligible to vote in the city or town where the prospective voter intends to vote, (iii) that each prospective voter's signature on the affidavit of compliance matches that prospective voter's signature already on file with the election officials in the city or town where the prospective voter intends to vote, and (iv) that each prospective voter meets the requirements set forth in Chapter 51, Section 1 of the General Laws. Should any prospective voter fail to satisfy any of the requirements set forth in this subsection, that prospective voter shall be allowed to deposit a provisional ballot pursuant to Section 76C of this Chapter provided, however, such prospective voter executes an affidavit, subscribed to and witnessed by the poll worker, attesting to their identity, residence, citizenship, and date of birth. Such provisional ballot will be counted only if the city or town clerk verifies and confirms (i) that the prospective voter appears on the list of registered voters who are eligible to vote in the city or town where the prospective voter intends to vote, (ii) that the prospective voter's signature on the affidavit matches that prospective voter's signature already on file with the election officials in the city or town where the prospective voter intends to vote, and (iii) that the prospective voter meets the requirements set forth in Chapter 51, Section 1 of the General Laws."

SECTION 2. This initiative shall be effective upon passage.

We have personally reviewed the above final text of this Initiative Petition, fully subscribe to its contents, and agree to be one of the original signers of the petition.

June & Bercin Signature	Signature Col	Camela C. Barnes
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