

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Brian A. Joyce

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 polling place safety.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Brian A. Joyce

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO POLLING PLACE SAFETY.

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 24 of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the
2 first paragraph the following paragraph:-

3 The aldermen in cities, except where city or town charters provide otherwise, and the selectmen of towns
4 divided into voting precincts, shall not designate any school building or school premises as a polling place
5 for any voting precinct, unless they have made every reasonable effort to find or provide for a suitable
6 alternative venue. Any school building or school premises that is designated as a polling place shall be
7 open for polling and voting purposes only and no session of school shall be held in said building or
8 premises on the day of any special or general election. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph,
9 school staff development days may be held on the day of any special or general election at the discretion
10 of the local school superintendent and/or school committee.