



Measure #: 2026-007

TOWN COUNCIL MEASURE SUBMITTAL

Date: 8/11/2025

Submitted By: Councilor Donovan

Telephone #: 508-699-0100

MEASURE DESCRIPTION:

That the Town Council send a letter to Sen. Paul Feeney and State Rep. Adam Scanlon advocating for the passage of Bill SD.2982, sponsored by Sen. Jacob R. Oliveira.

Signed:

Daniel F. Donovan

Digitally signed by Daniel F.
Donovan
Date: 2025.07.29 14:44:07 -04'00'

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION:

I propose sending a letter to Sen. Paul Feeney and State Rep. Adam Scanlon advocating for the passage of Bill SD.2982, sponsored by Sen. Jacob R. Oliveira. SD.2982 proposes changes to Massachusetts election laws to remove the requirement that a candidate's street address appear on ballots and nomination papers. Instead, it would:

For state candidates: Display only the city or town of residence.

For local candidates: Display only the ward, precinct, or district, as appropriate.

Specifically, it amends:

Chapter 53, Sections 34 and 106, and Chapter 54, Sections 41 and 42 of the General Laws

Replacing references to a candidate's street name and number with broader geographic identifiers (city/town, ward, precinct, or district)

Purpose: To increase privacy for candidates by removing detailed home address information from publicly available election documents.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

ATTACHMENTS: North Attleborough Town Council Letter of Support

REFER TO SUB-COMMITTEE:

Justin Pare', President
Keith Lapointe, Vice-President



John Costello
Daniel Donovan
Mark Gould, Jr.
Kevin McCarthy
John Simmons
Andrea Slobogan
Laura Wagner

Town of North Attleborough
TOWN COUNCIL
43 South Washington Street, North Attleborough, MA 02760

September 22, 2025

North Attleborough Town Council

43 South Washington Street
North Attleborough, MA 02760

Senator Paul Feeney
Massachusetts State Senate
24 Beacon Street, Room 215
Boston, MA 02133

Representative Adam Scanlon
Massachusetts House of Representatives
24 Beacon Street, Room 443
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Senator Feeney and Representative Scanlon,

On behalf of the North Attleborough Town Council, we write to express our strong support for **Bill SD.2982**, *An Act Relative to Candidate Privacy*.

This legislation proposes a thoughtful and timely update to the Commonwealth's election laws by removing the requirement that candidates' street addresses appear on ballots and nomination papers. Instead, the bill would require that only a candidate's city or town—or in the case of local candidates, their ward, precinct, or district—be listed.

We believe this change enhances both the safety and accessibility of the democratic process. In an age where personal information is easily disseminated and sometimes misused, requiring candidates to publicly disclose their home addresses can pose security risks and discourage civic participation—especially at the local level. By modernizing these requirements, Bill SD.2982 will help ensure that more residents feel comfortable stepping forward to serve their communities.

We appreciate your leadership and your continued advocacy for practical reforms that support both transparency and personal privacy. We respectfully urge you to support and advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Justin Pare'

President, North Attleborough Town Council

Keith Lapointe, Vice President

John Costello

Daniel Donovan

Mark Gould, Jr.

Kevin McCarthy

John Simmons

Andrea Slobogan

Laura Wagner

Members, North Attleborough Town Council

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jacob R. Oliveira

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 relative to residential address privacy for candidates on general and primary election ballots.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Jacob R. Oliveira</i>	<i>Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester</i>	
<i>Steven George Xiarhos</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>6/20/2025</i>

SENATE No.

By Mr. Oliveira, a petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Jacob R. Oliveira for legislation relative to residential address privacy for candidates on general and primary election ballots. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to residential address privacy for candidates on general and primary election 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 34 of chapter 53 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, after the word “candidate,” the words “the
3 street and number, if any, of his residence” and inserting in place thereof the following words:–
4 “the city or town for candidates for state office, or the ward, precinct or district for candidates for
5 local office, as applicable”.

6 SECTION 2. Section 106 of chapter 53 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
7 amended by striking out, after the words “shall be printed,” the words “the street and number, if
8 any, of his residence” and inserting in place thereof the following words:– “the city or town for
9 candidates for state office, or the ward, precinct or district for candidates for local office, as
10 applicable”.

11 SECTION 3. Section 41 of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
12 amended by:

13 (a) striking out, after the words “shall be added,” the words “the name of the city or town
14 where he resides, with the name of the street and number, if any, of his residence” and inserting
15 in place thereof the following words:– “the city or town in which he resides”;

16 (b) striking out, after the words “shall be added,” the words “the name of the street on
17 which he resides, with his street number, if any” and inserting in place thereof the following
18 words:– “the ward or precinct in which he resides”;

19 (c) striking out, after the words “shall be added,” the words “the name of the street on
20 which he resides, with his street number, if any” and inserting in place thereof the following
21 words:– “the precinct or district in which he resides”.

22 SECTION 4. Section 42 of chapter 54 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
23 amended by striking out, after the words “shall be placed first on the ballot in alphabetical order
24 according to their surnames; and”, the words “the names and addresses of the candidates” and
25 inserting in place thereof the following words:– “the names and municipalities of residence of
26 the candidates, or the ward, precinct or district in which they reside, as applicable”.