

HOUSE No. 1169

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Ruth B. Balsler, (BY REQUEST)

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 to recognize common law marriage in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Linda Bonica McMullen
David M. Rogers

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

45 Pelham St. Newton Center, MA 02459
24th Middlesex

HOUSE No. 1169

By Ms. Balsler of Newton (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1169) of Linda Bonica McMullen and David M. Rogers for legislation to recognize common law marriage in the Commonwealth. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1192 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)
—————

An Act to recognize common law marriage in the Commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 207 § 59

2 Persons cohabiting and acknowledging each other as spouse, and generally reputed to be
3 such, for 3 years shall thereafter be deemed to have been legally married.

4 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to render any common-law marriage, otherwise
5 lawful, invalid by reason of the failure to take out a license or follow solemnization procedures
6 as provided by this chapter.