

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1426**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Colleen M. Garry*

*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 clarifying the child removal statute.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Colleen M. Garry*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*36th Middlesex*

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By Miss Garry of Dracut, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1426) of Colleen M. Garry for legislation to allow for the removal of children only if said removal results in a direct benefit to the child. The Judiciary.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 796 OF 2017-2018.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act clarifying the child removal statute.

*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 30 of chapter 208 of the General Laws, as appearing in the most  
2 recent edition, is hereby further amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new  
3 paragraph:-

4           The removal shall be ordered only if the Court finds that the removal results in a direct  
5 benefit to the child which outweighs any detriment to the child, including but not limited to, that  
6 resulting from the loss of frequent and regular visitation with the non-custodial parent.