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# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

#### PRESENTED BY:

#### Kenneth I. Gordon

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 the age of consent in certain criminal prosecutions and civil actions for sexual assault and rape of a child.

### PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Kenneth I. Gordon	21st Middlesex
Steven Ultrino	33rd Middlesex

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By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3310) of Kenneth I. Gordon and Steven Ultrino relative to the age of consent in certain criminal prosecutions and civil actions for sexual assault and rape of a child. The Judiciary.

## [SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION SEE HOUSE, NO. *3062* OF 2017-2018.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the age of consent in certain criminal prosecutions and civil actions for sexual assault and rape of a child.

*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. Chapter 268 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is
- 2 hereby amended by inserting after section 21A the following paragraphs:-

Section 21B. Any person who is employed by or contracts with any public or private school, or the department of youth services, the department of children and families, the department of mental health, the department of developmental services, or any private institution providing services to clients of such departments, and who, in the course of such employment or contract or as a result thereof, engages in sexual abuse of a person under the age of 19, or under the age of 22 under Chapter 71B, who has not received a high school diploma, a general educational development certificate, or an equivalent document and who is served by such school, department or institution, within or outside of such school, department or institution,
shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than five years in a state prison or by a fine of
\$10,000 or both. In a prosecution commenced under this section, an individual served by such
school, department or institution shall be deemed incapable of consent to sexual relations with
such person. For purposes of this section, sexual relations shall be defined as that term is used of
chapter 260, section 4C.

16 Any person who is employed or contracted by an institution of higher learning, and who, 17 in the course of such employment or as a result thereof, engages in sexual abuse of a person who 18 is 19 years of age or under who has not received a high school diploma, a general educational 19 development certificate, or an equivalent document and who is enrolled in or attending the 20 college or university at which the person is employed, shall be punished by imprisonment for not 21 more than five years in a state prison or by a fine of \$10,000 or both. In a prosecution 22 commenced under this section, an individual served by such institution shall be deemed 23 incapable of consent to sexual relations with such person. For purposes of this section, sexual 24 relations shall be defined as that term is used of chapter 260, section 4C.

25 Section 21C. Any person who is sexually abused by an employee or contractor with any 26 public or private school, or the department of youth services, the department of children and 27 families, the department of mental health, the department of developmental services, or any 28 private institution providing services to clients of such departments, and who, in the course of 29 such employment or contract or as a result thereof, engages in sexual abuse of a person under the 30 age of 19, or under the age of 22 under Chapter 71B, who has not received a high school 31 diploma, a general educational development certificate, or an equivalent document and who is 32 served by such school, department or institution, within or outside of such school, department or

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institution, shall have a cause of action against such an employee or contractor, under chapter
260, section 4C. In a civil action commenced under said section, a person served by such
school, department or institution shall be deemed incapable of consent to sexual relations with
such an employee or contractor.

Any person who is employed or contracted by a college or university, and who, in the course of such employment or as a result thereof, engages in sexual abuse of a person who is 19 years of age or under who has not received a high school diploma, a general educational development certificate or an equivalent document and who is enrolled in or attending the college or university at which the person is employed, shall have a cause of action against such an employee or contractor, under chapter 260, section 4C.