

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3776**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Joan Meschino*

*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 basing dispositional orders on a child’s best interest.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Joan Meschino</i>	<i>3rd Plymouth</i>	<i>2/18/2021</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3776**

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By Ms. Meschino of Hull, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3776) of Joan Meschino relative to basing dispositional orders on the best interests of children. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to basing dispositional orders on a child’s best interest.

*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 24 of chapter 119 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 38, the words “subclause (ii)” and  
3 inserting in place thereof the following words:- subclause (i).

4           SECTION 2. Clause (2) of subsection (b) of section 26 of said chapter 119, as so  
5 appearing, is hereby amended by striking out subclause (i) and inserting in place thereof the  
6 following subclause:-

7           (i) any person, including the child’s parent, who is found by the court to be qualified to  
8 give care to the child;.