

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

William J. Driscoll, Jr., (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 prohibiting hate speech.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Clinton Graham</i>		<i>1/27/2023</i>

HOUSE No.

By Representative Driscoll of Milton (by request), a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Clinton Graham for legislation to prohibit hate speech. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act prohibiting hate speech.

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 269 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

2 Section 20. (a) As used in this section, the term “hate speech” shall mean speech that
3 carries no meaning other than the expression of hatred for some group, such as a particular race,
4 color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability, in
5 circumstances in which the communication is likely to or does provoke violence.

6 (b) Whoever makes or circulates hate speech or causes hate speech to be made or
7 circulated shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$500 or by imprisonment in a jail or house
8 of correction for not more than 1 year or by both such fine and imprisonment.