

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Stephen L. DiNatale***

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*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 amend the homestead law.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	<i>3/18/2013</i>
<i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>3/19/2013</i>

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

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By Mr. DiNatale of Fitchburg, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Stephen L. DiNatale and Jennifer L. Flanagan relative to the definition of "owner" under the laws regulating estates of homestead. The Judiciary.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
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An Act to amend the homestead law.

*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 of chapter 188 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by striking the ninth paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following  
3 paragraph:-

4           “Owner”, a natural person who is the holder of a freehold estate or holder of a beneficial  
5 interest in a trust, including without limitation the holder of any form of tenancy of fee title, a life  
6 estate, a remainder or any kind of present or future interest, regardless of whether said title,  
7 estate, remainder or interest is subject to a condition precedent, a condition subsequent, a right of  
8 defeasance or any other limitation; provided, however, that the term owner shall not include a  
9 tenant for fewer than twenty years or a person whose only interest in a home is as a mortgagee.