

HOUSE No. 3212

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James J. O'Day and Jennifer L. Flanagan

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 regarding background checks on foster parents.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>	<i>1/15/2015</i>
<i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/16/2015</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>12/20/2019</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>12/20/2019</i>
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>	<i>12/20/2019</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>12/20/2019</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>12/20/2019</i>

HOUSE No. 3212

By Representative O’Day of West Boylston and Senator Flanagan, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3212) of James J. O’Day, Jennifer L. Flanagan and others relative to background checks on foster parents. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act regarding background checks on foster parents.

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 51F of Chapter 119 of the General laws is hereby amended by inserting after the
2 third paragraph the following:

3 DCF Background Record Check reports of Central Registry Records on a foster parent
4 consisting exclusively of 51A reports determined to be “invalid”, “unsupported” or by some
5 other designation conclude that the foster parent was not found to be responsible for abuse or
6 neglect of a child, shall be reported to the hiring authority as “no record”. Said report shall be
7 considered a full accounting of the foster parent’s central registry record. Nothing in this section
8 shall prevent the Department from maintaining and using this data in investigating future 51A
9 reports.