

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3317**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Josh S. Cutler*

*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 resolution:

Resolutions Equality for America's adopted children.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/16/2015</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>12/26/2019</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>12/26/2019</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>12/26/2019</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>12/26/2019</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>12/26/2019</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3317**

By Mr. Cutler of Duxbury, a petition (accompanied by resolutions, House, No. 3317) of Josh S. Cutler and others for the adoption of resolutions memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation under the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution declaring that natural born citizens be defined to include foreign born adopted children as set forth in the Child Citizenship Act of 2000. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

Resolutions Equality for America's adopted children.

1 WHEREAS the Child Citizenship Act of 2000 amends the Immigration and  
2 Naturalization Act (INA) to permit foreign born adopted children to acquire automatic United  
3 States citizenship upon certain conditions.

4 WHEREAS, foreign born adopted children became United States citizens automatically  
5 when at least one parent is a United States citizen, the child is adopted under 16 years of age, the  
6 child is residing in the United States in the legal and physical custody of the parent having  
7 United States citizenship, and the adoption of that child has been finalized, and all legal  
8 requirements applicable to adopted children comply with the provisions set forth in section  
9 101(b)(1) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act.

10 WHEREAS, despite automatic United States citizenship under the Child Citizenship Act  
11 of 2000, foreign born adopted children are not considered natural born citizens of the United  
12 States under the United States Constitution and as such, cannot be afforded certain inalienable

13 rights and privileges available to natural born citizens under the United States Constitution  
14 including but not limited to being eligible to pursue the Office of President of the United States.

15 WHEREAS, the purpose of the natural born citizen clause in the United States  
16 Constitution is to protect the nation from foreign influence and ensure absolute loyalty and  
17 attachment to the principles of the Constitution.

18 WHEREAS, there are more than 250,000 foreign born adopted children in the United  
19 States whom are United States citizens that are being raised as Americans, educated as  
20 Americans and bear true faith and allegiance to the United States just like natural born citizens.

21 THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts speaking through  
22 its legislature hereby petitions the United States Congress to enact legislation allowing foreign  
23 born adopted children that satisfy the requirements under the Child Citizenship Act of 2000 to be  
24 considered natural born citizens so that they can be afforded the same inalienable rights and  
25 privileges extended to all other citizens of the United States pursuant to the United States  
26 Constitution.