HOUSE . . . . No. 2310

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kay Khan

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 end child marriage in Massachusetts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Kay Khan	*11th Middlesex*	*1/19/2017*
Harriette L. Chandler	*First Worcester*	*1/31/2017*
Claire D. Cronin	*11th Plymouth*	*2/1/2017*
James B. Eldridge	*Middlesex and Worcester*	*2/1/2017*
Ruth B. Balser	*12th Middlesex*	*1/26/2017*
Linda Dorcena Forry	*First Suffolk*	*2/3/2017*
Lori A. Ehrlich	*8th Essex*	*1/26/2017*
Carolyn C. Dykema	*8th Middlesex*	*1/25/2017*
Marjorie C. Decker	*25th Middlesex*	*2/3/2017*
Michelle M. DuBois	*10th Plymouth*	*1/31/2017*
Tricia Farley-Bouvier	*3rd Berkshire*	*2/2/2017*
Kenneth I. Gordon	*21st Middlesex*	*2/1/2017*
Paul R. Heroux	*2nd Bristol*	*1/30/2017*
Jay D. Livingstone	*8th Suffolk*	*2/2/2017*
Chris Walsh	*6th Middlesex*	*2/2/2017*

HOUSE . . . . No. 2310

By Ms. Khan of Newton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2310) of Kay Khan and others for legislation to prohibit marriage of minors. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)

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An Act to end child marriage in Massachusetts.

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. Chapter 207 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition,

2   is hereby amended by striking out section 7 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

3   Section 7. A magistrate or minister shall not solemnize a marriage if a party to the

4   marriage is under the age of 18.

5   SECTION 2. Said chapter 207, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking

6   out section 24 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

7   Section 24. The clerk or registrar shall not receive a notice of the intention of

8   marriage of a person under the age of 18.

9   SECTION 3. Section 25 of said chapter 207, as so appearing, is hereby repealed.

10   SECTION 4. Section 27 of said chapter 207, as appearing is hereby amended by striking

11   out the second and third sentences.

12   SECTION 5. Said chapter 207, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out

13   section 33A and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

14   Section 33A. The clerk or registrar shall not issue a certificate under section 28 before

15   receiving proof of the age of the parties and

16   verifying that neither party is under the age of 18. Such proof shall be contained in any

17   of the following documents, graded and

18   taking precedence in the order named: (1) an original or certified copy of a record of

19   birth; (2) an original or certified copy of a

20   baptismal record; (3) a passport; (4) a life insurance policy; (5) an employment

21   certificate; (6) a school record; (7) an immigration

22   record; (8) a naturalization record; or (9) a court record. Documentary evidence of a

23   lower grade as aforesaid shall not be received

24   by the clerk or registrar unless the clerk or registrar is satisfied that evidence of a

25   higher grade is not readily procurable.

26   SECTION 6. Section 34 of said chapter 207, as so appearing, is hereby repealed.

27   SECTION 7. Section 53 of said chapter 207, as appearing, is hereby amended by striking

28   out the words "section thirty–three", in line 2, and inserting in place thereof the following

29   words:- sections 24 and 33A.

30   SECTION 8. Chapter 272 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by

31   striking out section 1 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

32   Section 1. Whoever fraudulently and deceitfully entices or takes away an unmarried

33 person, for the purpose of effectuating a

34   clandestine marriage of such person, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more

35 than 1 year or by a fine of not more than

36    $1,000, or both.