

HOUSE No. 796

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Colleen M. Garry

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 clarifying the removal statute.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/9/2017</i>

HOUSE No. 796

By Miss Garry of Dracut, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 796) of Colleen M. Garry for legislation to allow for the removal of children only if said removal results in a direct benefit to the child. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1316 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act clarifying the removal statute.

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. Section 30 of chapter 208 of the General Laws, as appearing in the most
2 recent edition, is hereby further amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new
3 paragraph:-

4 The removal shall be ordered only if the Court finds that the removal results in a direct
5 benefit to the child which outweighs any detriment to the child, including but not limited to, that
6 resulting from the loss of frequent and regular visitation with the non-custodial parent.