

**SENATE . . . . . No. 745**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Ryan C. Fattman*

*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 helping young parents and families.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>	<i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>	
<i>Kathleen R. LaNatra</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

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By Mr. Fattman, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 745) of Ryan C. Fattman, Kathleen R. LaNatra, Michael O. Moore, Anne M. Gobi and others for legislation to help young parents and families. Higher Education.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act helping young parents and families.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 15C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition, is hereby  
2 amended by adding the following section:-

3 Section 30. As used in this section, the following words shall have the following  
4 meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

5 “Newborn child”, a child not more than 6 months of age.

6 “Student loan”, a loan primarily used to finance education or other school-related  
7 expenses.

8 “Borrower”, a resident of the commonwealth who has received or agreed to pay a student  
9 loan or a person who shares responsibility with that resident for repaying the student loan.

10 The Massachusetts Educational Finance Authority, in consultation with the Office of the  
11 Attorney General, shall promulgate regulations and develop a program to allow for the deferment

12 of student loans dispersed by the Authority by any borrower who is pregnant or who is a parent  
13 or guardian caring for or adopting a newborn child. Said regulation shall: (i) include a deferment  
14 period of not less than 6 months; (ii) require a birth certificate, adoption certificate, or  
15 appropriate documentation from a healthcare professional or primary care doctor; and (iii) be  
16 established no later than December 31, 2021.