

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4209**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Erika Uytterhoeven*

*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 defining a domestic partner as a spouse and dependent as to the city of Somerville.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Erika Uytterhoeven</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>10/12/2021</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>10/13/2021</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>10/13/2021</i>
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>10/15/2021</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4209**

By Ms. Uytterhoeven of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4209) of Erika Uytterhoeven and others (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the definition of domestic partners as spouses and dependents for employees of the city of Somerville. Public Service. [Local Approval Received.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**

An Act defining a domestic partner as a spouse and dependent as to the city of Somerville.

*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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, in the City of  
2 Somerville, for Group Insurance Commission coverage purposes as established by General Laws  
3 Chapter 32B, any domestic partner in a registered domestic partnership with an employee of the  
4 City of Somerville, shall be a "dependent" and shall be entitled to participate in the election of  
5 coverages and benefits provided by the Group Insurance Commission to City of Somerville  
6 employees.

7           SECTION 2. Any member of a registered domestic partnership with the City of  
8 Somerville shall be considered a "spouse" with respect to all spousal rights established by the  
9 General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

10          SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage