

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1014**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Diana DiZoglio***

*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 specifying controlling or coercive behavior as domestic abuse.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Diana DiZoglio*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*First Essex*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1014**

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By Ms. DiZoglio, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1014) of Diana DiZoglio for legislation to specify controlling or coercive behavior as domestic abuse. The Judiciary.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act specifying controlling or coercive behavior as domestic abuse.

*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 1 of chapter 209A of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
2 inserting in the definition of “Abuse” the following:-

3           (d) repeated or continuous engagement in behavior that is controlling or coercive, which  
4 causes the recipient of the behavior: (i) to fear, on at least two occasions, that violence will be  
5 used against the recipient, or (ii) serious alarm or distress which has a substantial adverse effect  
6 on the recipient’s usual day-to-day activities, and which the perpetrator of the behavior knows or  
7 ought to know will cause the recipient such fear, alarm or distress.