

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1120**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Patrick M. O'Connor***

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*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 relative to visitation rights of grandparents.**

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Patrick M. O'Connor*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Plymouth and Norfolk*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1120**

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By Mr. O'Connor, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1120) of Patrick M. O'Connor for legislation relative to visitation rights of grandparents. The Judiciary.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1010 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
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An Act relative to visitation rights of grandparents.

*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 39D of Chapter 119 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “court.”, in line 19, the following  
3 sentence:-

4           Where the state has custody of a minor or a court has awarded temporary guardianship of  
5 a minor to a non-parent, the court may consider whether the minor has a preexisting relationship  
6 with a grandparent in determining if visitation rights would be in the best interest of the child;  
7 provided, however, that such preexisting relationship shall not be a necessity for awarding said  
8 visitation rights.