

SENATE No. 937

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Harriette L. Chandler

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 to end child marriage in Massachusetts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>	
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2021</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>2/2/2021</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2021</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/5/2021</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>2/5/2021</i>
<i>Edward J. Kennedy</i>	<i>First Middlesex</i>	<i>2/10/2021</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>2/15/2021</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/19/2021</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>2/22/2021</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>3/2/2021</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	<i>3/13/2021</i>

<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	<i>3/15/2021</i>
<i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>	<i>4/14/2021</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>4/29/2021</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>5/10/2021</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>5/25/2021</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>5/25/2021</i>
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>	<i>5/27/2021</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>5/28/2021</i>
<i>John C. Velis</i>	<i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>6/11/2021</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>6/11/2021</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>6/11/2021</i>
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	<i>6/17/2021</i>
<i>Cindy F. Friedman</i>	<i>Fourth Middlesex</i>	<i>6/25/2021</i>
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>6/30/2021</i>
<i>John F. Keenan</i>	<i>Norfolk and Plymouth</i>	<i>7/1/2021</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>7/13/2021</i>
<i>John J. Cronin</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>7/13/2021</i>
<i>Mark C. Montigny</i>	<i>Second Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>8/5/2021</i>
<i>Susan L. Moran</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>	<i>8/18/2021</i>
<i>Paul R. Feeney</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>	<i>9/15/2021</i>
<i>Adam G. Hinds</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i>	<i>9/24/2021</i>

SENATE No. 937

By Ms. Chandler, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 937) of Harriette L. Chandler, Kay Khan, Jack Patrick Lewis, Sal N. DiDomenico and other members of the General Court for legislation to end child marriage in Massachusetts. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 2294 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to end child marriage in Massachusetts.

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. Chapter 207 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section
2 7, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

3 Section 7. A magistrate or minister shall not solemnize a marriage if a party to the
4 marriage is under the age of 18.

5 SECTION 2. Said chapter 207 is hereby further amended by striking out section 24, as so
6 appearing, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

7 Section 24. The clerk or registrar shall not receive a notice of the intention of marriage of
8 a person under the age of 18.

9 SECTION 3. Section 25 of said chapter 207 is hereby repealed.

10 SECTION 4. Section 27 of said chapter 207, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is
11 hereby amended by striking out the second and third sentences.

12 SECTION 5. Said chapter 207 is hereby further amended by striking out section 33A, as
13 so appearing, and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

14 Section 33A. The clerk or registrar shall not issue a certificate under section 28 before
15 receiving proof of age of the parties and verifying that both parties are not less than 18 years of
16 age. Such proof shall be contained in any of the following documents, graded and taking
17 precedence in the following order: (i) an original or certified copy of a record of birth; (ii) an
18 original or certified copy of a baptismal record; (iii) a passport; (iv) a life insurance policy; (v) an
19 employment certificate; (vi) a school record; (vii) an immigration record; (viii) a naturalization
20 record; or (ix) a court record. The clerk or registrar shall not accept documentary evidence of a
21 lower grade unless the clerk or registrar is satisfied that evidence of a higher grade is not readily
22 procurable.

23 SECTION 6. Section 34 of said chapter 207 is hereby repealed.

24 SECTION 7. Section 53 of said chapter 207, as appearing in the 2018 Edition, is hereby
25 amended by striking out, in line 2, the words “section thirty–three” and inserting in place thereof
26 the following words:- sections 24 and 33A.