

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Kenneth P. Sweezey and Kathleen R. LaNatra***

*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 designating a certain intersection in the town of Pembroke as the Lavina A. Hatch corner.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Kenneth P. Sweezey</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/9/2025</i>
<i>Kathleen R. LaNatra</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>

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

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3293 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act designating a certain intersection in the town of Pembroke as the Lavina A. Hatch corner.

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

1           The intersection of Congress Street and Washington Street, on Route 53 and Route 14, on  
2 the northwest corner of the intersection, at 749 Washington Street in the town of Pembroke, shall  
3 be designated and known as the Lavina A. Hatch Corner, in honor of Lavina A. Hatch, a  
4 founding member and secretary of the National Woman Suffrage Association of Massachusetts.

5           The Massachusetts Department of Transportation shall erect and maintain suitable  
6 markers bearing the designation in compliance with the standards of the department.

7           Lavina A. Hatch was born on May 20, 1836, in Pembroke, Massachusetts, and died on  
8 March 20, 1903, at the age of sixty-six. She was an animal rights activist, a suffragist, and an  
9 active volunteer in various organizations. She was a founding member and secretary of the  
10 National Woman Suffrage Association of Massachusetts and kept records of the Boston Political  
11 Class, which was an auxiliary organization. She attended Wheaton Female Seminary in Norton,

12 and received additional education at Hanover Academy in Hanover, and Partridge Academy in  
13 Duxbury. She was employed as a schoolmistress in the local towns, where she was remembered  
14 as a teacher who not only disapproved of corporal punishment but succeeded in controlling even  
15 the unruliest students. She gave up teaching to care for her brother's children at the death of their  
16 mother, later adopting her niece and nephew. Hatch also cared for an invalid mother at the family  
17 home and served as postmistress in East Pembroke in the early 1870s. Lavina Hatch was an  
18 advocate for women's rights during the late 19th century. She worked closely with Susan B.  
19 Anthony, a prominent American women's rights activist, on a chapter for the fourth volume of  
20 the History of Woman Suffrage. The two also collaborated on writing on the work of the  
21 Massachusetts National Association.