HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1162 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1380

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Chris Walsh*, (BY REQUEST)**

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 amending the marriage laws.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Robert Edwards	*12D Rose Kennedy Lane* *Framingham, MA 01702*

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By Mr. Walsh of Framingham (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1380) of Robert Edwards relative to the rights of disabled persons under the marriage laws. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act amending the marriage laws.

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

SECTION 1 No Group Home shall interfere in the dating and marriage of a disabled person any violation under the marriage law a fine up to one thousand dollars or more.

SECTION 2 No disabled person shall be prevented from getting married by a legal guardian or power of attorneys and family members if a disabled person has been previously divorced this should be added under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 208 Section 1A.

SECTION 3 Any disabled person who has a trust fund before they get married shall have the right to do a prenup or marriage contract under Massachusetts Marriage Law under Massachusetts General Laws.

SECTION 4 any disabled or nondisabled person should not need the consent of a legal guardian or power of attorney or family members if they are 21 years of age or over to get married under the Marriage Law under this regulation under Massachusetts General Laws.

12 SECTION 5 No Legal Guardian or power of attorneys and family members shall prevent
13 a disabled or nondisabled person from getting married based on their religion if there is a
14 violation under this section a disabled person or nondisabled person shall have the right to make
15 a complaint with the Massachusetts Commission against Discrimination under the Massachusetts
16 Marriage Law.

17 SECTION 6 No Legal Guardian or Power of Attorney or families shall not prevent a
18 disabled person from getting married if they have a physical cognitive or emotional disability
19 including any person who has a traumatic brain injury a fine under this section minimum of one
20 thousand dollars and a maximum of five thousand dollar fine under this section should be given
21 if there has been a violation under the Massachusetts

22 Marriage Law under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 208 Section 1A.

23

24 SECTION 7 No power of attorney or legal guardian or family members shall make any
25 decision on the behalf of any disabled person regarding competency only a health care
26 professional shall make the decision if a disabled person with a disability is competent to get
27 married under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 208 Section 1A.