

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
BILL SUMMARY**

BILL NO. H1850

TITLE: An Act to address arbitration and litigation relief.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jay D. Livingstone

COSPONSOR(S): None

HEARING DATE: July 29, 2025

PRIOR HISTORY: None

SENATE BILL: None

REPORTING DEADLINE: September 27, 2025 (subject extensions, in accordance with House Rule 27)

CURRENT LAW: Section 20 of Chapter 223 of the General Laws guarantees that process in the Supreme Judicial and Superior Courts are signed, permits them to be issued by the clerk and guarantees their execution and obedience throughout the commonwealth.

Section 32 of Chapter 260 provides that if an action is dismissed for insufficient service of process due to an accident or death, neglect by an officer and or death then the mover may commence a new action for the same cause within one year after the dismissal or other determination of the original action.

BILL SUMMARY: Section 1 – Adds to Section 20 of Chapter 223, the ability for anyone over 18 and not a party to litigation to serve a summons or complaint for all civil actions pending in District Court, Boston Municipal Court, or Superior Court.

Section 2 – Adds dismissal because of arbitration to the list of exceptions in Section 32 of Chapter 60.