

HOUSE No. 189

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.

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 establishing that the rights of a child to supersede the rights of the biological rights.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>	<i>2/19/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 189

By Mr. Berthiaume of Spencer, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 189) of Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr. relative to the rights of certain children in custody to move forward with adoption superseding the rights of the biological parents. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act establishing that the rights of a child to supersede the rights of the biological rights.

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 119 of General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by inserting after Section 24 the following new section:-

3
4 SECTION 24A Notwithstanding any general or special laws to the contrary, for children
5 in custody, the rights of a child shall supersede the rights of the biological parents if, after one
6 year, the biological parents fail to complete their service plan. The child may move forward with
7 adoption.

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