

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3594**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Judith A. Garcia***

*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 relative to jurisdiction in paternity actions.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Judith A. Garcia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Samantha Montaño</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/21/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3594**

By Representative Garcia of Chelsea, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3594) of Judith A. Garcia and Samantha Montañó relative to jurisdiction in paternity actions. The Judiciary.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**

An Act relative to jurisdiction in paternity actions.

*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 39M of chapter 119 is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:-

2 (i) For the purposes of a special findings determination pursuant to subsection (b), the  
3 following shall be considered abuse, neglect and abandonment of a child by their father: (i) the  
4 refusal of the father to acknowledge the child’s paternity; (ii) a finding that the child’s  
5 conception was a result of a sexual assault against the mother by the father; or (iii) a history of  
6 domestic violence by the father against the mother.