

**SENATE . . . . . No. 00800**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

*Brian A. Joyce*

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*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 passage of the accompanying bill:

AN ACT relative to spousal immunity .

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Brian A. Joyce*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Norfolk, Bristol, and Plymouth*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 00800**

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By Mr. Joyce, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 800) of Joyce for legislation relative to spousal immunity [Joint Committee on the Judiciary].

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Eleven  
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AN ACT relative to spousal immunity .

*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. Section 20 of said Chapter 233, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
2 striking out the second paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-  
3 Except as otherwise provided in section seven of chapter two hundred and seventy-three and  
4 except in any proceeding relating to child abuse, including incest, neither husband nor wife shall  
5 be compelled to testify before a grand jury or in the trial or any pre-trial or post-trial hearing, of  
6 an indictment, complaint, or other criminal proceeding against the other.