

SENATE No. 848

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Brian A. Joyce

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 spousal immunity.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Brian A. Joyce

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth

SENATE No. 848

By Mr. Joyce, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 848) of Brian A. Joyce for legislation relative to spousal immunity. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 749 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

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 20 of chapter 233 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by striking out the second paragraph and inserting in place thereof the
3 following paragraph:-

4 Second, Except as otherwise provided in section seven of chapter two hundred and
5 seventy-three and except in any proceeding relating to child abuse, including incest, neither
6 husband nor wife shall be compelled to testify before a grand jury or in the trial or any pre-trial
7 or post-trial hearing, of an indictment, complaint, or other criminal proceeding against the other.