HOUSE DOCKET, NO. FILED ON: 1/14/2009

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

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

**Eugene L. O'Flaherty**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*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 clarifying the removal statute.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

PETITION OF:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: | District/Address: |
| Eugene L. O'Flaherty | 2nd Suffolk |
| John J. Binienda | 17th Worcester |

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1639 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

An Act clarifying the removal statute.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

SECTION 1.  Section 30 of chapter 208 of the General Laws, as appearing in the most recent edition, is hereby further amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new paragraph:-

      The removal shall be ordered only if the Court finds that the removal results in a direct benefit to the child which outweighs any detriment to the child, including but not limited to, that resulting from the loss of frequent and regular visitation with the non-custodial parent.