

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Benjamin Swan

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 the department of social services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Benjamin Swan

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

11th Hampden

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2259 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

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 2 of Chapter 18B of the General Laws of Massachusetts is hereby amended adding the following
2 to Section 14 therein:— Temporary residential programs, and/or certified domestic violence programs shall be
3 precluded from arbitrarily, or as a matter of procedure, transferring local residents who are victims of domestic
4 violence out of the area. This bill does not inhibit the transfer of a local resident; however, if a victim of domestic
5 violence has legitimate reason to believe that she will be safe in a local facility, then she shall not be prevented
6 from staying if vacancies are available. No policy or program shall turn away a local victim of domestic violence in
7 the name of safety