

**SENATE . . . . . No. 55**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Barbara A. L'Italien***

*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 spouses as caregivers.

PETITION OF:

| NAME:                         | DISTRICT/ADDRESS:                                  |                  |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------|
| <i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>   | <i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>                  |                  |
| <i>Jose F. Tosado</i>         | <i>9th Hampden</i>                                 | <i>1/25/2017</i> |
| <i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i> | <i>12th Hampden</i>                                | <i>1/25/2017</i> |
| <i>Mathew Muratore</i>        | <i>1st Plymouth</i>                                | <i>1/25/2017</i> |
| <i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>     | <i>Second Middlesex</i>                            | <i>1/27/2017</i> |
| <i>Brian M. Ashe</i>          | <i>2nd Hampden</i>                                 | <i>2/1/2017</i>  |
| <i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>     | <i>25th Middlesex</i>                              | <i>2/1/2017</i>  |
| <i>Joan B. Lovely</i>         | <i>Second Essex</i>                                | <i>2/2/2017</i>  |
| <i>Kay Khan</i>               | <i>11th Middlesex</i>                              | <i>2/2/2017</i>  |
| <i>Sarah K. Peake</i>         | <i>4th Barnstable</i>                              | <i>2/2/2017</i>  |
| <i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>      | <i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>                       | <i>2/2/2017</i>  |
| <i>James M. Murphy</i>        | <i>4th Norfolk</i>                                 | <i>2/2/2017</i>  |
| <i>Michael O. Moore</i>       | <i>Second Worcester</i>                            | <i>2/3/2017</i>  |
| <i>Anne M. Gobi</i>           | <i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i> | <i>2/3/2017</i>  |
| <i>Eric P. Lesser</i>         | <i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>                 | <i>2/3/2017</i>  |
| <i>James Arciero</i>          | <i>2nd Middlesex</i>                               | <i>2/3/2017</i>  |

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By Ms. L'Italien, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 55) of Barbara A. L'Italien, Jose F. Tosado, Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr., Mathew Muratore and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to spouses as caregivers. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to spouses as caregivers.

*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 9 of Chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding in the second sentence of the second paragraph,  
3 after the words “requirements for Title XIX” the following new language:--

4           “; provided further that any program of home and community based services funded  
5 pursuant to the provisions of this chapter or pursuant to the provisions of chapter one hundred  
6 and eighteen G, in which family members are permitted to serve as paid caregivers, shall include  
7 spouses within the definition of family member; provided further the Executive Office of Health  
8 and Human Services shall file a state plan amendment or wavier application, as is required to  
9 allow spouses to serve as paid caregivers.”