
By Mr. McCann, petition of Robert F. Drinan, S.J., and others for legislation to require one year's residence before filing a libel for divorce. Legal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-One.

**AN ACT PROVIDING THAT ONE YEAR'S RESIDENCE BE REQUIRED
BEFORE FILING A LIBEL FOR DIVORCE.**

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 5 of chapter 208 of the General Laws
2 as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby amended
3 by striking out in lines one — four, inclusive, the words “five
4 years last preceding the filing of the libel, or if both parties
5 were inhabitants of this commonwealth at the time of their
6 marriage and the libellant has lived in this commonwealth for
7 three years last preceding such filing” and inserting in place
8 thereof: — one year last preceding the filing of the libel, — so
9 as to read as follows:

10 *Section 5.* If the libellant has lived in this commonwealth
11 for one year last preceding the filing of the libel, a divorce
12 may be decreed for any cause allowed by law whether it oc-
13 curred in this commonwealth or elsewhere, unless it appears
14 that the libellant has removed into this commonwealth for the
15 purpose of obtaining a divorce.

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