

HOUSE No. 3347

By Mr. Keverian of Everett, petition of George Keverian relative to the representation of criminal defendants. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Eight.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE REPRESENTATION OF CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS.

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 37A of chapter 276 of the General Laws, as most
2 recently amended by chapter 313 of the acts of 1959, is hereby
3 further amended by adding after the first paragraph the following
4 paragraph:—

5 Any person may waive his or her right to assistance of counsel,
6 and shall have the right to represent himself or herself; provided,
7 however, that the court shall have the responsibility of determining
8 whether there is an intelligent and competent waiver of right to
9 assistance of counsel.

