

By Ms. Melconian, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 863) of Linda J. Melconian for legislation relative to the emancipation of minors. The Judiciary.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ENACTMENT OF AN EMANCIPATION STATUTE.

*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 7B of Chapter 4 of the Massachusetts General Laws,  
2 as hereby appearing in the 1986 Official Edition is hereby amended  
3 by inserting the following language:

4 Section 1. The legislature finds and declares that the case  
5 law of this state is unclear as to the definition and consequences  
6 of emancipation of minors; that a legislative statement is required;  
7 and that a process should be provided so that emancipated minors  
8 can obtain an official declaration of their status. It is the purpose  
9 of this part to provide a clear statement defining emancipation  
10 and its consequences and to permit an emancipated minor a court  
11 declaration of his status.

1 Section 2. Any person under the age of eighteen years who  
2 comes within the following description is an emancipated minor:

3 a. who has entered into a valid marriage, whether or not such  
4 marriage was terminated by dissolution; or

5 b. who is on active duty with any of the armed forces of the  
6 United States of America; or

7 c. who has received a declaration of emancipation pursuant to  
8 this chapter.

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