

By Mr. LoPresti, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 817) of Michael LoPresti, Jr., Mary C. Fitzpatrick, David H. Locke and W. Paul White for legislation relative to notice in certain adoption proceedings. The Judiciary.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO NOTICE IN CERTAIN ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 General Laws Chapter 210 section 4, as most recently amended  
2 by St. 1978, Chapter 552, section 57 is amended by striking the  
3 entire section and inserting in place thereof the following new  
4 section: —

5 If the written consent required by section two is not submitted  
6 to the court with the petition, the court shall, except where the  
7 court under section three has determined that such consent and  
8 notice is not required, order notice by personal service upon the  
9 parties of an order of notice, in such form as shall be prescribed  
10 under section thirty of chapter two hundred and fifteen, or, if the  
11 parties are not found within the commonwealth, by publication  
12 of said order of notice once in each of three successive weeks in  
13 such newspaper as the court orders, the last publication to be seven  
14 days at least before the time appointed for the hearing, and the  
15 court may require additional notice and consent. This notice shall  
16 be required if the identity of the putative father of the child is  
17 known. But, if such child is of unknown parentage, and is a  
18 foundling, publication as herein set forth shall not be required;  
19 but notice of the petition shall be given to the department of social  
20 services.

