

[Similar Matter Filed During Past Session —
See Senate No. 765 of 1991.]

SENATE No. 832

By Ms. Melconian, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 832) of Linda J. Melconian for legislation relative to the custody of children while actions for divorce are pending. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CUSTODY OF CHILDREN DURING PENDENCY.

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 19. of Chapter 208 of the General Laws, as appearing
2 in the 1990 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out
3 said section in its entirety and inserting in its place thereof the
4 following: —

5 Section 19: The court shall, in like manner, upon application
6 of either party or of a next friend in behalf of the minor children
7 of the parties, make such order relative to the care, custody and
8 maintenance of such children during the pendency of the action
9 for divorce that preserves the equal status of the parents relative
10 to custody, prior to a full evidentiary hearing or trial on the merits.

