

By Mrs. Hicks of Wayland, petition of Lucile P. Hicks, Michael LoPresti, Jr., David B. Cohen, Susan D. Schur and another for legislation to provide for a six month period between the filing of a divorce and the hearing. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Four.

AN ACT REDUCING TO SIX MONTHS THE TIME WHICH MUST ELAPSE BETWEEN THE FILING OF THE COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE ON THE GROUND OF IRRETRIEVABLE BREAKDOWN OF THE MARRIAGE AND THE HEARING.

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 1B of Chapter 208 of the General Laws, as most recently
2 amended by Chapter 447 of the Acts of 1981, is hereby amended by
3 deleting the second and third paragraphs and substituting the
4 following: —

5 “No earlier than six (6) months after the filing of the complaint,
6 there shall be a hearing and the court may enter a judgment of
7 divorce nisi if the court finds that there has existed, for the period
8 following the filing of the complaint and up to the date of the
9 hearing, a continuing irretrievable breakdown of the marriage.

10 Said six (6) month period shall be determined from the filing of a
11 complaint for divorce. In the event that a complaint for divorce is
12 commenced in accordance with the provisions of section one A or
13 is for a cause set forth under section one, and said complaint is later
14 amended to set forth the ground established in this section, the six
15 (6) month period herein set forth shall be computed from the date
16 of the filing of said complaint.”

of the House of Representatives
of the United States

The Committee on Education

has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your report on the subject of the proposed amendment to the act providing for the establishment of a National Board of Health.

The committee has carefully considered the same, and has the honor to report to the House the following conclusions:

1. That the proposed amendment is in accordance with the policy of the act.

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