

HOUSE No. 2631

By Mr. DeNucci of Newton, petition of A. Joseph DeNucci, David H. Locke and another that provision be made for joint legal custody of certain children by order of the Probate Court. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A JOINT LEGAL CUSTODY OF CHILDREN BY ORDER OF THE PROBATE.

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 31 of chapter 208 of the General Laws, as most recently
2 amended by chapter 238 of the acts of 1977, is hereby further
3 amended by adding the following paragraph: —

4 With the consent of both parents the court shall order the
5 children to be in joint legal custody of their parents for an agreed
6 period of the year, to include specifically, weeks or months. If such
7 an order is entered it shall direct that designated children shall
8 reside with and be in physical custody of one or the other parent in
9 the weeks or months agreed to by both parties inconsistent with the
10 best interests of the children. The shared joint legal custody arrange-
11 ments shall be determined by the court when the parents fail to
12 agree “over” the principal domicile of the children shall be equally
13 shared by both parents involving temporary or final custody.
14 Unless one of the child’s parents can proven to be grossly unfit to
15 cause emotional or physical danger to the children.

The Government of the United States
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Washington, D. C.

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