

HOUSE No. 3057

By Mr. Mara of Brockton, petition of Francis G. Mara for legislation to further protect children from abuse and neglect. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FURTHER PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN FROM ABUSE AND NEGLECT.

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 fifty-one A of chapter one hundred and nineteen of the
2 General Laws is hereby amended by inserting as new second and
3 third sentences in the first paragraph thereof the following: — The
4 existence of on-going use of or trafficking in controlled substances
5 in the place where such a child resides or the involvement in such
6 use or trafficking of a parent or the guardian of such a child shall
7 constitute prima facie evidence of abuse inflicted upon or neglect
8 of such a child, or both. The fact that a parent or guardian of
9 a child within the minimum and maximum ages established for
10 school attendance under section one of chapter seventy-six fails
11 to cause such child to attend school as required by law shall
12 constitute prima facie evidence of neglect of such child.

