HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1216 FILED ON: 1/16/2013

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1439

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kay Khan

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying:

An Act to accelerate a child's reunification with family members.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Kay Khan	*11th Middlesex*
Paul J. Donato	*35th Middlesex*
Marcos A. Devers	*16th Essex*
Denise Andrews	*2nd Franklin*
Gloria L. Fox	*7th Suffolk*
Bruce E. Tarr	*First Essex and Middlesex*

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1216 FILED ON: 1/16/2013

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1439

By Ms. Khan of Newton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1439) of Kay Khan and others for legislation to expedite the reunification of children under temporary custody with family members. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act to accelerate a child's reunification with family members.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 119 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, after section 25, the following new section:-

Section 25A. Any time after granting temporary custody of a child to the department, the court may review and revise that order sua sponte to allow for the child to be placed in the custody of a parent, guardian, custodian, or a suitable third party. No sooner than 60 days after the filing of the care and protection petition under section24, any party may file a motion requesting such a review. If the party alleges that there has been a material change in circumstances, the court shall take evidence on the issue to determine whether a modification of the order is warranted.