

S 1124
H 1712

AN ACT TO PROMOTE EFFICIENCY IN CO-PARENT ADOPTIONS

BILL SUMMARY

This bill codifies a streamlined process for co-parent adoptions by LGBTQ couples who petition to adopt their own children so as to ensure universal recognition and respect for their parentage. This bill will ensure greater clarity, efficiency, and consistency in the adoption process.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT PROBLEM?

- LGBTQ couples must complete adoptions of their own children in order to secure a court decree which ensures their parentage will be respected throughout the United States and internationally.
- Although the process has become somewhat easier since the first co-parent adoption in 1993, the process can be slow, inconsistent between courts, expensive, and difficult to navigate.
- The children born to LGBTQ couples remain vulnerable and any delay in establishing or confirming parentage is contrary to their best interests.

HOW DOES THIS BILL HELP?

This bill will codify a streamlined process of adoption, ensuring that children born to LGBTQ families can be adopted without having to go through a home study, a six-month waiting period and other requirements that are not appropriate in these circumstances.

LEAD SPONSORS

The lead sponsor in the Senate is Sen. Becca Rausch.

The lead sponsor in the House is Rep. Kay Khan.

Supporters include Boston Bar Association, GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD), MassEquality, Massachusetts LGBTQ Bar Association, Resolve New England.
For further information, please contact Polly Crozier at pcrozier@glad.org
and visit GLAD.org/coadopt2021