

**HOUSE . . . . . No.**

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Filed by Messrs. Lyons of Andover, Lombardo of Billerica and other members of the House.  
March 12, 2014

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen**

Resolutions Acknowledging Serious Concerns regarding DCF’s handling of the Justina Pelletier Case.

1           WHEREAS, Lou and Linda Pelletier are the parents of Justina Pelletier and have  
2 provided a loving home for their children and in good faith and at the direction of the Chief of  
3 Metabolism at Tufts Medical Center, Mr. & Mrs. Pelletier have spent several years treating their  
4 daughter for Mitochondrial disease and;

5           WHEREAS, for the last twelve months Justina Pelletier has been in the care of the  
6 Department of Children and Families and her medical condition has deteriorated, and;

7           WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Families has a stated goal of strengthening  
8 the link between families, and government removing children from their parents should occur  
9 only in extreme cases where malicious intent, neglect, or the blatant inability to care for the child  
10 is present, and;

11           WHEREAS, there has been no finding of malicious intent or blatant inability of the  
12 Pelletiers to care for their daughter Justina, and;

13           WHEREAS, the Massachusetts House of Representatives has serious concerns about the  
14 removal of Justina Pelletier from the custody of her family and concerns over the process that led  
15 to the breaking up of this family; THEREFORE, BE IT

16           RESOLVED, the members of the Massachusetts House of Representatives strongly  
17 encourage the Department of Children and Families to immediately release Justina Pelletier from  
18 their custody and reunite her with her parents AND BE IT FURTHER

19           RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THESE RESOLUTIONS BE FORWARDED BY  
20 THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
21 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.