

HOUSE No. 1487

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael J. Finn

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to juvenile court reporting requirements.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Michael J. Finn</i>	<i>6th Hampden</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Paul J. Donato</i>	<i>35th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/27/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 1487

By Representative Finn of West Springfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1487) of Michael J. Finn and Paul J. Donato relative to juvenile court reporting requirements. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)

An Act relative to juvenile court reporting requirements.

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 1. Chapter 18C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 official edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 7, the following section:-

3 Section 7A. The juvenile court department of the Massachusetts trial court shall provide
4 to the office of the child advocate information regarding key court performance measures in
5 child abuse and neglect cases. Key performance measures shall include, but are not limited to: (i)
6 number of children in court jurisdiction; (ii) number of children with subsequent substantiated or
7 indicated child abuse and/or neglect while under court jurisdiction; (iii) reason for achievement
8 and non-achievement of permanency; (iv) the number of judges per case; (v) percentage of cases
9 in which parties received service of process; (vi) average and median time from filing of the
10 original petition to legal permanency; (vii) the percentage of children reaching permanency
11 within different timeframes or closed within 6 months, 12 months, 18 months, 24 months or
12 more; (viii) time to adjudication by type of permanent placement or case closure; (ix) time to

13 first permanency hearing by type of placement or case closure; and (x) time to termination of
14 parental rights to finalized termination of parental rights.

15 This juvenile court shall report key performance measures in child abuse and neglect
16 cases to the office of the child advocate quarterly. The office of the child advocate may require
17 that data be categorized by age, gender, race, ethnicity, case type, court location, and any
18 combination thereof. The office of the child advocate shall receive reports prepared by the
19 juvenile court's Court Improvement Program.