

HOUSE No. 1732

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Todd M. Smola

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 bill:

An Act Relative to Increasing the Penalty for Kidnapping a Child.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Todd M. Smola | 1st Hampden |
| Jeffrey Davis Perry | 5th Barnstable |
| Richard J. Ross | 9th Norfolk |
| Cory Atkins | 14th Middlesex |

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR KIDNAPPING A CHILD.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is forthwith to
2 protect children from kidnappings and attempted kidnappings, therefore, it is declared to be an emergency
3 law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public safety.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 26 of chapter 265 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official
7 Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 42 and 43, the words “shall be punished by
8 imprisonment in the state prison for not more than 15 years” and inserting in place thereof the following
9 words:- whether he succeeds or fails in the perpetration of such kidnapping, shall be punished by
10 imprisonment in the state prison for life or any term of years.