

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1814**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Susannah M. Whipps*

*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 to protect employees of DCF.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>1/15/2023</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>2/1/2023</i>

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By Representative Whipps of Athol, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1814) of Susannah M. Whipps and Christopher Hendricks for legislation to establish penalties for threatening an employee of Department of Children and Families. The Judiciary.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1926 OF 2021-2022.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to protect employees of DCF.

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

1 Chapter 265 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 13M the  
2 following section:-

3 (a) A person shall not by words or conduct knowingly:

4 (1) threaten an employee of Department of Children & Families; and as a result of the  
5 threat, place the other person in reasonable belief of death or serious bodily injury.

6 (b) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall be imprisoned not more than  
7 two years or fined not more than \$1,000.00, or both.

8 (c) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section with the intent to prevent another  
9 person from reporting to the Department for Children and Families the suspected abuse or

- 10 neglect of a child shall be imprisoned not more than two years or fined not more than \$1,000.00,
- 11 or both.