

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2261**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Marjorie C. Decker and Sheila C. Harrington***

*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 promote public safety and certainty related to child deaths.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/5/2021</i>
<i>Sheila C. Harrington</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>2/5/2021</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	<i>2/9/2021</i>
<i>Jon Santiago</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/16/2021</i>

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By Representatives Decker of Cambridge and Harrington of Groton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2261) of Marjorie C. Decker, Sheila C. Harrington and others relative to findings and reports of medical examiners performing autopsies on children under the age of two. Public Health.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3499 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—————  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
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An Act to promote public safety and certainty related to child deaths.

*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 38 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by inserting after section 4A the following section:-

3           Section 4B. In the case of a death of a child under the age of two, the findings and report  
4 of the medical examiner performing the autopsy to determine the cause of death, and any change  
5 to the autopsy report, shall be subject to review and approval by the chief medical examiner.