

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 881**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***David Paul Linsky***

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*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 protecting children.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*David Paul Linsky*

*5th Middlesex*

*Michelle M. DuBois*

*10th Plymouth*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 881**

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By Mr. Linsky of Natick, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 881) of David Paul Linsky and Michelle M. DuBois for legislation to establish a penalty for parents, legal guardians or caretakers failing to report the death of a minor child. The Judiciary.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1449 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
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An Act protecting children.

*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 269 of the General Laws be amended by adding the following  
2 new section:

3           Section 20: Whoever, being the parent, legal guardian, or caretaker of a minor child,  
4 and who has knowledge of the death of said minor child, and who fails to notify law enforcement  
5 or emergency medical personnel of the death of said minor child, within twenty-four hours of  
6 death, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than five years or by a  
7 fine of not more than ten thousand dollars and imprisonment in jail or a house of correction for  
8 not more than two and one half years.