

SENATE No. 814

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cynthia S. Creem

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 ensuring prisoners convicted of committing first-degree murder as a juvenile a meaningful opportunity to be heard at parole hearings.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Cynthia S. Creem

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Middlesex and Norfolk

SENATE No. 814

By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 814) of Cynthia S. Creem for legislation relative to counsel at parole hearings for juvenile life sentences. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 766 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act ensuring prisoners convicted of committing first-degree murder as a juvenile a meaningful opportunity to be heard at parole hearings.

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. Section 133A of chapter 127 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 If the prisoner is serving a life sentence for murder in the first degree committed before
4 the prisoner's eighteenth birthday, the prisoner shall have the right to have appointed counsel at
5 the parole hearing if deemed to be indigent and the right to funds for experts as determined by
6 the standards under chapter 211D.