

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 93

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By Ms. Flanagan of Leominster, petition of Jennifer L. Flanagan and others relative to requiring the Department of Social Services to track and report on the use of residential homes for children in the custody of the Commonwealth. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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### PETITION OF:

Jennifer L. Flanagan	Gale D. Candaras
Cleon H. Turner	Gloria L. Fox
Bruce E. Tarr	William Smitty Pignatelli

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In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

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AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO TRACK AND REPORT ON THE USE OF RESIDENTIAL HOMES FOR CHILDREN IN THE CUSTODY OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

*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 23 of Chapter 119 of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by adding after clause H the following clause:  
3 Notwithstanding any general or special law or rule or regulation,  
4 the department of social services shall report quarterly to the house  
5 and senate committees on ways and means on the number of chil-  
6 dren who are placed in residential care by region; the age and gender  
7 of the children; the reasons for such placement, including CHINS;  
8 the level of services provided at the placement; the length of stay;  
9 discharge information; and the disposition of the child's case; either  
10 to family or community care. The report shall also include the cost  
11 of residential placement by region; and the cost to the department of  
12 the return of the child to the family or community care; and any  
13 other information the department determines to be necessary in  
14 evaluating the operation of state-funded residential homes.