

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1732**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:  
**Todd M. Smola**

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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 passage of the accompanying bill:  
**An Act Relative to Increasing the Penalty for Kidnapping a Child.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Todd M. Smola	1st Hampden
Jeffrey Davis Perry	5th Barnstable
Richard J. Ross	9th Norfolk
Cory Atkins	14th Middlesex

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine  
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## AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR KIDNAPPING A CHILD.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is forthwith to protect children from kidnappings and attempted kidnappings, therefore, it is declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public safety.

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

SECTION 1. Section 26 of chapter 265 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 42 and 43, the words “shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than 15 years” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- whether he succeeds or fails in the perpetration of such kidnapping, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for life or any term of years.