

SENATE NO. 915

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is forthwith to require certain sex offenders to notify the sex offender registration board of any name change, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*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 178E of chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words “commonwealth or in another state”, in
3 lines 16, 55 and 81, the following words, in each instance:-

4 and to give notice of change of name,

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after said section
6 178E the following section:-

7 Section 178E ½ (a) A sex offender who is required to register pursuant to sections 178C to
8 178P, inclusive, shall notify the board within 7 days after a change of name. A sex offender
9 who knowingly violates this provision shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 2
10 1/2 years in the house of correction or by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or both. A violation of
11 this subsection may be prosecuted in the district court in the judicial district where the sex
12 offender currently resides, works or attends an institution of higher learning or other educational

13 institution in the commonwealth, or where the sex offender is currently registered to work,
14 reside or attend an institution of higher learning or other educational institution in the
15 commonwealth, based on the sex offender's latest registration data.

16 (b) The board, upon receipt of the sex offender's name change notification, shall promptly
17 transmit notice of the sex offender's name registration change to: the police departments in the
18 municipalities in the commonwealth wherein the sex offender is currently registered to reside,
19 work or attend an institution of higher learning or other educational institution; the police
20 departments in the municipalities in the commonwealth wherein the sex offender, as currently
21 registered with the board, intends to reside, work, or plans to attend an institution of higher
22 learning; and the police departments in the municipalities in the commonwealth wherein a sex
23 offense was committed and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

24 (c) Except as required under subsection (b), the board shall make notification of a sex
25 offender's name change to governmental departments, agencies, institutions and municipal
26 police departments or to the public, as authorized under section 178K to receive registration
27 information. A municipal police department notified by the board of a sex offender's name
28 change pursuant to subsection (b) shall make notification of such name change to individuals,
29 organizations, governmental departments, agencies and institutions and municipal police
30 departments or the public, as authorized under section 178K to receive registration information.