

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1758**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**A. Stephen Tobin**

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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 the concealment of the death of children and penalties for the sale or purchase of minor children.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1744 OF 2007-2008.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

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### AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE CONCEALMENT OF THE DEATH OF CHILDREN AND PENALTIES FOR THE SALE OR PURCHASE OF MINOR 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 272 is hereby amended by striking out Section 22 and inserting in place thereof the  
2 following:—

3 Section 22. Whoever conceals the death of a child, so that it cannot be ascertained whether it was born alive or, if  
4 born alive, whether it was murdered, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than 5 years  
5 or in a house of correction for not more than two and one-half years.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 272 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by inserting after Section  
7 22 the following section:—

8 Section 22A. Unless otherwise provided by law, whoever trades, sells or arranges for the sale of a minor child to  
9 another person for money or property, real or personal, or anything else of value, or whoever receives such minor  
10 child for such payment or thing of value shall be punished by imprisonment in state prison for not more than five  
11 years or in a house of correction for not more than two and one-half years.