

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1942**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Kimberly N. Ferguson*

*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 to protect personal information.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Kimberly N. Ferguson*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*1st Worcester*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1942**

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By Mrs. Ferguson of Holden, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1942) of Kimberly N. Ferguson relative to protecting personal information in the issuance of copies of birth certificates. Public Health.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1948 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
—————

An Act to protect personal information.

*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 43 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is  
2 hereby amended by striking Section 2A and inserting in place thereof the following:-

3           Section 2A. Examination of records and returns of birth shall not be permitted except  
4 upon request of a person seeking his own birth record, or his attorney, parent, guardian, or  
5 conservator, or a person whose official duties, in the opinion of the town clerk or the  
6 commissioner of public health, as the case may be, entitle him to the information contained  
7 therein, or upon proper judicial order, nor shall certified copies thereof be furnished except upon  
8 the request of such person, or such order.

9 Examination of records and returns of children born out of wedlock or abnormal sex  
10 births, or fetal deaths, or of the notices of intention of marriage and marriage records in cases  
11 where a physician's certificate has been filed under the provisions of section twenty A of chapter  
12 two hundred and seven, or those of persons born out of wedlock, or of copies of such records in  
13 the department of public health, shall not be permitted except upon proper judicial order, or upon  
14 request of a person seeking his own birth or marriage record, or his attorney, parent, guardian, or  
15 conservator, or a person whose official duties, in the opinion of the town clerk or the  
16 commissioner of public health, as the case may be, entitle him to the information contained  
17 therein, nor shall certified copies thereof be furnished except upon such order, or the request of  
18 such person. The provisions of this section shall not apply to such records, returns or notices  
19 recorded or filed prior to January first, eighteen hundred and forty-one or to such copies thereof.

20 A person obtaining a copy of a birth record shall be required to present current and valid  
21 photo identification. The city or town clerk shall maintain of record of the same.