HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1461 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1307

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Colleen M. Garry

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:

An Act prohibiting court ordered visitation rights to persons convicted of criminal offenses against a minor.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Colleen M. Garry	*36th Middlesex*

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 1307

By Ms. Garry of Dracut, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1307) of Colleen M. Garry prohibiting court ordered visitation rights to persons convicted of criminal offenses against minors. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
HOUSE
, NO. *1398* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act prohibiting court ordered visitation rights to persons convicted of criminal offenses against a minor.

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 28 of Chapter 208 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:— No court shall make an order providing visitation rights to a parent who has been convicted of sexual abuse and/or other crimes against children including but not limited to one or more of the following: Ch. 265, sections 13B, 13H, 13J, 22, 22A, 23, 24, 24B, 26, 26A, 27A, Chapter 272, sections 1, 2, 4, 4A, 4B, 16, 17, 28, 29A, 29B, 35, 35A, unless such child is of suitable age and assents to such order and a guardian ad litem finds the visitation is in the best interest of the child.

SECTION 2. Section 37 of Chapter 209 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:— No court shall make an order providing visitation rights to a parent who has been convicted of sexual abuse and/or other crimes against children including but not limited to one or more of the following: Ch. 265, sections 13B, 13H, 13J, 22, 22A, 23, 24, 24B, 26, 26A, 27A, Chapter 272, sections 1, 2, 4, 4A, 4B, 16, 17, 28, 29A, 29B, 35, 35A, unless such child is of suitable age and assents to such order and a guardian ad litem finds the visitation is in the best interest of the child.