

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Demetrius J. Atsalis**

*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 requiring the Department of Social Services to provide certain information in care and protection proceedings .

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Demetrius J. Atsalis

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Barnstable

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 68 OF 2007-2008.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

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### AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO PROVIDE CERTAIN INFORMATION IN CARE AND PROTECTION PROCEEDINGS .

*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 18B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby
- 2 amended by inserting after section 6A the following section:—
- 3 Section 6B. The department shall develop a handbook explaining in detail the process involved in the
- 4 protection and care of children proceedings including but not be limited to the guidelines and procedures of the
- 5 department and the legal rights of all parties to such proceedings. Such handbook shall be given, at no cost, to all
- 6 parties or the representatives or agents in such proceedings at the initial contact.