

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Robert A. DeLeo

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 child testimony in criminal proceedings

1 SECTION 1. Section 20 of chapter 233 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 official
2 edition, is hereby amended by striking the fourth clause and inserting in place thereof the following:--

3 Fourth, An unemancipated, minor child, shall not testify before a grand jury, trial of an
4 indictment, complaint or other criminal proceeding, against a parent who maintains either physical
5 custody, legal custody or both over said child, where the victim in such proceeding is not a member of
6 said parent's family and who does not reside in the said parent's household. For the purposes of this
7 clause the term "parent" shall mean the natural or adoptive mother or father of said child.

PETITION OF:

NAME: _____ DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Robert A. DeLeo **19th Suffolk**