

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Eugene L. O'Flaherty**

*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 parent child privilege.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Eugene L. O'Flaherty

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

2nd Suffolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1637 OF .]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

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### AN ACT RELATIVE TO PARENT CHILD PRIVILEGE.

*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. Section 20 of Chapter 233 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby  
2 amended by inserting after the fourth paragraph the following paragraph:-

3 Fifth, except in any proceeding where an unemancipated minor child is alleged to have committed a crime against a  
4 family member, a parent of such unemancipated child shall not be compelled to testify in any proceeding against the  
5 unemancipated minor child. A child, upon the showing that the parent posses exculpatory evidence, may compel the  
6 parent to testify. For purposes of this clause, the term "parent" shall mean the natural or adoptive mother or father or  
7 stepparent of said unemancipated minor child, provided such relationship existed at the time of the event in question.

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