

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Elizabeth Poirier

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 providing for restraining orders for victims of a crime and their family members.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Elizabeth Poirier	14th Bristol

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1686 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR RESTRAINING ORDERS FOR VICTIMS OF A CRIME AND THEIR
FAMILY MEMBERS.

*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 209A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after Section C the
2 following section:—
3 Section 3D. For the purposes of this section, a “victim” shall be a person who suffers personal injury or
4 death as the result of a crime. A “family member of a victim” shall include the spouse, parent,
5 grandparent, stepmother, stepfather, child, grandchild, brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, adopted
6 children of parent or spouse’s parents. An “offender” shall be a person who commits a crime against a
7 victim.
8 A victim or family member of a victim may file a complaint in the court requesting an order permanently
9 restraining an offender from any contact with the victim or family member of a victim. Said proceedings
10 shall be governed by the applicable provisions of section three except the relief shall be a permanent
11 restraining order.