

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Martin J. Walsh**

*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 to increase access to information regarding drug overdose deaths .**

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Martin J. Walsh

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

13th Suffolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1765 OF 2007-2008.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

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**AN ACT TO INCREASE ACCESS TO INFORMATION REGARDING DRUG OVERDOSE  
DEATHS .**

*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 7 of Chapter 38 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by striking the first paragraph and replacing it with the following:-

3           “If, during the course of investigation, the medical examiner is of the opinion that the death may  
4 have been caused by the act or negligence of another, or by the ingestion of narcotics, he or she shall at  
5 once notify the district attorney within whose district the deceased was found and the local law  
6 enforcement agency for such district or, if such act or negligence has occurred in a different district, the  
7 district attorney and the local law enforcement agency for such other district. He or she shall also make  
8 available to the district attorney and the local law enforcement agency any and all records pertaining to  
9 such investigation.”