

To accompany the petition of Frances S. Henry and others for the protection of minors upon whom or against certain crimes involving moral turpitude have been committed. Joint Judiciary.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-Three.

**AN ACT**

To protect Certain Minors upon whom Crimes involving Moral Turpitude have been committed.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter two hundred and seventy-eight of the  
2 General Laws is hereby amended by inserting  
3 after section sixteen the following new section: —  
4 *Section 16A.* At the trial of a complaint or  
5 indictment for rape, incest, carnal abuse or other  
6 crime involving moral turpitude, where a minor  
7 under seventeen years of age is the person upon  
8 or against whom the crime is alleged to have been  
9 committed, the court shall exclude the general  
10 public from the court room, admitting only such  
11 persons as may have a direct interest in the case.  
12 In all such cases such minor, if not represented  
13 by counsel, shall have counsel assigned to him by  
14 the court who shall be allowed reasonable com-  
15 pensation therefor by the court which shall be  
16 paid by the county.





