

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 2317

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By Mr. Almeida of Plymouth, petition of Alfred Almeida and Gary D. Jones that the publication of certain matters in an obituary shall be considered an invasion of the right of privacy. The Judiciary.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Six.

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT THE PUBLICATION OF CERTAIN MATTER IN AN OBITUARY SHALL BE AN INVASION OF THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY.

*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 1B of chapter 214 of the General Laws, inserted by  
2 chapter 193 of the acts of 1974, is hereby further amended by  
3 inserting after the first sentence the following sentence:—A  
4 newspaper alluding to or presenting information in an obituary  
5 of a prior criminal indictment of the deceased shall if that charge  
6 ended in a finding of innocence, nol pros or dismissal, be an  
7 interference with the right of privacy of the family of the  
8 deceased and the remedy provided by this section shall be  
9 available to any member of such family.

