

**SENATE . . . . . No. 704**

By Mr. Berry, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 704) of Frederick E. Berry, Mary Jane McKenna, Christopher J. Hodgkins, William G. Reinstein, Lucile P. Hicks and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to intimidation of witnesses. The Judiciary.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Eight.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE INTIMIDATION OF WITNESSES.

*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 13B of Chapter 268 of the 1984 Official Edition is  
2 hereby amended by striking out the first sentence in paragraph  
3 one and inserting in place thereof the following new sentence:

4 Whoever, directly or indirectly, willfully endeavors by means  
5 of a gift, offer or promise of anything of value, or by  
6 misrepresentation, intimidation, force or threats of force, to  
7 influence, impede, obstruct, delay or otherwise interfere with any  
8 witness or juror in any stage of a trial or other criminal proceeding,  
9 or with any person furnishing information to a criminal  
10 investigator relating to a violation of a criminal statute of the  
11 commonwealth, and whoever injures any person or damages his  
12 property on account of the giving of such information to a  
13 criminal investigator or on account of testimony given at a trial  
14 or other criminal proceeding, shall be punished by imprisonment  
15 in the state prison for not less than two years and not more than  
16 five years, and by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars and  
17 not more than five thousand dollars.

