

By Mr. Keating of Sharon, petition of William R. Keating and W. Paul White that the Department of Mental Health be required to notify crime victims or their families of the release of certain criminals. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH TO NOTIFY CRIME VICTIMS OR THEIR FAMILIES OF THE RELEASE OF CERTAIN CRIMINALS.

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 19 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting
- 2 after section 14G the following section: —
- 3 *Section 14H.* Not less than seven days before the time set for
- 4 the release or discharge of any person who, as a result of criminal
- 5 conduct, has been confined in or residing at a hospital, institution,
- 6 or facility under the control of the department, the superintendent
- 7 or officer in charge thereof, as the case may be, shall notify in
- 8 writing the person or persons, or if they are minors, their parents
- 9 or guardians, of such release or discharge.

