

SENATE No. 729

By Mr. Antonioni, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 729) of L. Scott Harshbarger, Attorney General, Robert A. Antonioni and Peter J. Larkin for legislation to provide for the admissibility of DNA test results. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Seven.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADMISSIBILITY OF DNA RESULTS.

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 233 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as appearing
2 in the 1994 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding, after
3 section 21B, section 21C, which provides:—

4 (a) As used in this section, deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) means
5 the molecules in all cellular forms that contain genetic informa-
6 tion in a patterned chemical structure of each individual.

7 (b) DNA analysis means the process through which deoxyri-
8 bonucleic acid in human biological specimen is analyzed and
9 compared with DNA from another biological specimen for identi-
10 fication purposes.

11 (c) In any civil or criminal trial, hearing or proceeding, DNA
12 testing shall be deemed to be a reliable scientific technique and
13 the results of DNA analysis, as defined in subsection (a), shall be
14 admissible to prove or disprove the identity of any person if per-
15 formed by a qualified expert.

