

HOUSE No. 120

By Mr. Atsalis of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 120) of Demetrius J. Atsalis relative to establishing a hotline for the use of foster children reporting cases of abuse or mistreatment. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Demetrius J. Atsalis

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing a toll free hotline for the use of foster children reporting cases of abuse or mistreatment.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Demetrius J. Atsalis

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Barnstable

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TOLL FREE HOTLINE FOR THE USE OF FOSTER CHILDREN
REPORTING CASES OF ABUSE OR MISTREATMENT.

*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 1. Chapter 12 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 11L the following section:—

3 Section 11M. The department of the attorney general, in cooperation with the department of state police,
4 shall establish and maintain a toll-free hotline, so-called, to receive calls from children being provided foster care by
5 the department of social services in any type of setting. The state police shall forthwith investigate any charges of
6 abuse or mistreatment. All information received shall be considered confidential but may be shared with appropriate
7 public officers and agencies.