

HOUSE No. 2586

By Mr. Greenberg of Pittsfield, petition of Joel S. Greenberg for legislation to prohibit the publication of the names of victims of sexual offenses. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE PUBLICATION OF THE NAMES OF VICTIMS OF CERTAIN CRIMES.

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 268 of the General Laws is hereby amended by add-
2 ing after section 38, the following new section:—
- 3 *Section 39.* No officer of the court shall divulge to any news-
4 paper, magazine, radio station, television station, or any other
5 news-disseminating agency, or to any employee, servant or
6 agent thereof, and no newspaper, magazine, radio station, tele-
7 vision station, or any other news-disseminating agency or em-
8 ployee, servant or agent thereof, shall publish or broadcast, or
9 cause to be published or broadcast, the name of any person
10 who is the victim of an action constituting the crime of rape,
11 incest, carnal abuse or other sexual offense, or the name of a
12 woman seeking to establish the paternity of a child born out of
13 wedlock, or the name of such child. Whoever violates any pro-
14 vision of this section shall be punished by a fine of not less
15 than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars.

