SENATE DOCKET, NO. 616 FILED ON: 1/15/2015

SENATE . . . . . No. 766

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cynthia S. Creem

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to counsel at parole hearings for juvenile life sentences.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Cynthia S. Creem	*First Middlesex and Norfolk*
Carolyn C. Dykema	*8th Middlesex*
James B. Eldridge	*Middlesex and Worcester*
Marjorie C. Decker	*25th Middlesex*

SENATE DOCKET, NO. 616 FILED ON: 1/15/2015

SENATE . . . . . No. 766

By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 766) of Cynthia S. Creem, Carolyn C. Dykema, James B. Eldridge and Marjorie C. Decker for legislation relative to counsel at parole hearings for juvenile life sentences. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)

An Act relative to counsel at parole hearings for juvenile life sentences.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 133A of chapter 127, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

If the prisoner is serving a life sentence for murder in the first degree committed before the prisoner's eighteenth birthday, the prisoner shall have the right to have appointed counsel at the parole hearing if deemed to be indigent and the right to funds for experts as determined by the standards under chapter 211D.