

HOUSE No. 1398

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act prohibiting court ordered visitation rights to persons convicted of criminal offenses against a minor..

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. Section 28 of Chapter 208 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:—No court shall make an
3 order providing visitation rights to a parent who has been convicted of sexual abuse and/or other
4 crimes against children including but not limited to one or more of the following: Ch. 265,
5 sections 13B, 13H, 13J, 22, 22A, 23, 24, 24B, 26, 26A, 27A, Chapter 272, sections 1, 2, 4, 4A,
6 4B, 16, 17, 28, 29A, 29B, 35, 35A, unless such child is of suitable age and assents to such order
7 and a guardian ad litem finds the visitation is in the best interest of the child.

8 SECTION 2. Section 37 of Chapter 209 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004
9 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:—No court shall make an
10 order providing visitation rights to a parent who has been convicted of sexual abuse and/or other
11 crimes against children including but not limited to one or more of the following: Ch. 265,
12 sections 13B, 13H, 13J, 22, 22A, 23, 24, 24B, 26, 26A, 27A, Chapter 272, sections 1, 2, 4, 4A,

- 13 4B, 16, 17, 28, 29A, 29B, 35, 35A, unless such child is of suitable age and assents to such order
- 14 and a guardian ad litem finds the visitation is in the best interest of the child.