

SENATE No. 1824

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act relative to murder committed by youthful offenders..

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 52 of Chapter 119 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended in line 13 by inserting after the word “committed,” the
3 following words:--

4 “while under the age of seventeen, murder in violation of section one of chapter two
5 hundred sixty-five; or”

6 SECTION 2. Section 54 of Chapter 119, as so appearing, is hereby amended in line 15
7 by inserting after the second paragraph the following new paragraph:--

8 “The commonwealth may proceed by complaint in juvenile court or in a juvenile session
9 of a district court, as the case may be, or by indictment as provided by chapter two hundred and
10 seventy-seven, if a person while under the age of seventeen is alleged to have committed an
11 offense in violation of section one of chapter two hundred and sixty-five.”

12 SECTION 3: Section 72B of Chapter 119, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
13 inserting at the beginning thereof the following: --

14 “If a person is found guilty or adjudicated delinquent by reason of murder in the first
15 degree committed before his fourteenth birthday under the provisions of section one of chapter
16 two hundred and sixty-five, the person shall be sentenced to 20 years with possibility of parole
17 after 15 years; or if found guilty or adjudicated delinquent by reason of murder in second degree,
18 the person shall be sentenced to 15 years with possibility of parole after 10 years in accordance
19 with section fifty-eight of chapter one hundred nineteen.”