

HOUSE No. 1178

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cory Atkins

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 victims rights.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Cory Atkins</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/16/2013</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>1/28/2013</i>
<i>Christopher G. Fallon</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>	
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	

HOUSE No. 1178

By Ms. Atkins of Concord, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1178) of Cory Atkins and others relative to victims rights. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 774 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act relative to victims rights.

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 228 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 14 the following section:-

3 Section 15. The death of a criminal defendant who is convicted of a criminal offense shall
4 automatically terminate the right to appeal or any appeal pending of such conviction, and where
5 such conviction has not been previously vacated or reversed by an order or decision of a court,
6 the judgment of conviction shall stand.

7 This section shall not preclude the attorney general or district attorney from commencing
8 an action to vacate the conviction judgment against a deceased defendant in the interest of
9 justice.