

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3246**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Kevin J. Kuros***

*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 requiring timely reporting of autopsy results.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Kevin J. Kuros</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>1/20/2017</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	
<i>Peter J. Durant</i>	<i>6th Worcester</i>	
<i>Geoff Diehl</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>	
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>	
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>	
<i>Kate D. Campanale</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3246**

By Mr. Kuros of Uxbridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3246) of Kevin J. Kuros and others that the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner provide copies of autopsy reports within 60 days of the completion of investigations into the circumstances surrounding deaths. Public Health.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**

An Act requiring timely reporting of autopsy results.

*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 38 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is  
2 hereby amended by inserting after section 16 the following new section:-

3           Section 17. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary,  
4 the office of the chief medical examiner shall provide a copy of the autopsy report of a decedent  
5 whose determined cause of death is suicide to the decedent's surviving spouse, person in the first  
6 degree of consanguinity or, in the event there is no surviving spouse or person in the first degree  
7 of consanguinity, to the person entitled to receive the body for the purposes, within 60 days of  
8 the completion of the investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death for the purposes  
9 of the decedent's surviving spouse or person in the first degree of consanguinity to furnish a final  
10 death certificate for the settlement of insurance claims and other financial issues.