

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1795**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Liz Miranda*

*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 improving juvenile justice data collection.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Liz Miranda</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/16/2021</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/17/2021</i>
<i>Patricia A. Duffy</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>2/23/2021</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>2/23/2021</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Kate Lipper-Garabedian</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Andres X. Vargas</i>	<i>3rd Essex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Erika Uytterhoeven</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/7/2021</i>
<i>Danillo A. Sena</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/15/2021</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>6/30/2021</i>

<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/1/2021</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>9/3/2021</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>9/8/2021</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>9/9/2021</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>	<i>10/18/2021</i>
<i>Tommy Vitolo</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>	<i>12/1/2021</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1795**

By Ms. Miranda of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1795) of Liz Miranda and others relative to juvenile justice data collection. The Judiciary.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**

An Act improving juvenile justice data collection.

*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. The purpose of these provisions is to ensure that the Commonwealth  
2 establishes systems to collect accurate, consistent, and comprehensive data on juveniles’ contacts  
3 with officials in the law enforcement and juvenile justice systems.

4 SECTION 2. Section 12(a) of Chapter 18C of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
5 inserting the words “or any law protecting the confidentiality of juvenile justice records and  
6 information” after “20K of chapter 233”

7 SECTION 3. Chapter 18C of the General Laws is hereby further amended by inserting  
8 after section 14, the following section:

9 Section 15. Collection and Reporting of Juvenile Justice Data

10 (a) The child advocate shall report statistical data on the juvenile justice system annually  
11 by December 31st to the governor, the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on the  
12 judiciary, the house and senate chairs of the joint committee public safety and homeland security,

13 the house and senate chairs of committee on children, families and persons with disabilities, the  
14 chief justice of the supreme judicial court and the chief justice of the trial court. The report,  
15 which shall be made public, shall include statistics on utilization of the juvenile justice system at  
16 various process points as well as information on decisions made at justice system decision points  
17 impacting juveniles, as described in Section 89 and Section 90 of Chapter 119 of the General  
18 Laws.

19 (b) The child advocate shall request data from relevant Offices and Departments holding  
20 data necessary to complete the aforementioned report at least annually, and may request data be  
21 provided on a quarterly basis.

22 (c) The Child Advocate shall issue guidance or promulgate regulations for the  
23 administration and enforcement of this section, including guidance or regulations establishing (1)  
24 schedules for the submission, transmission and publication of the data (2) the format and form  
25 that the aforementioned data from Offices and Departments shall take, including any  
26 requirements that data should be available for manipulation or disaggregation, and the format  
27 that transmission of the data shall take (3) the categories and types of data on juvenile  
28 interactions with the justice system to be submitted by each agency. The child advocate may  
29 request, and all Offices and Departments subject to this law shall provide, individual level data to  
30 facilitate analysis, provided that the child advocate shall be bound by any limitations on the use  
31 or release of such individual-level data imposed by law upon the party furnishing such  
32 information as described in Section 12 of this chapter.

33 (d) The guidance or regulations required by subsection (c) shall, at minimum, require  
34 data be provided in such a way as to allow analysis by demographic subgroups including, at a

35 minimum, age at the time of offense, sex/gender, gender identity and expression, racial or  
36 ethnicity category, sexual orientation, charge type and level, geographic location such as county  
37 or court location, and any combination thereof. The Child Advocate shall provide guidance about  
38 the manner in which demographic data is designated and collected, with consideration of the  
39 juveniles' self-reporting of such categories.

40 SECTION 4. Section 89 of chapter 119 of the General Laws, as appearing in section 80  
41 of chapter 69 of the acts of 2018, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of “criminal  
42 justice agency” the following paragraph:-

43 “Gender identity” shall be defined pursuant to clause 59 of section 7 of chapter 4 of the  
44 General Laws

45 SECTION 5. Section 89 of said chapter 119, as so appearing, is hereby further amended  
46 by inserting after the definition of “racial or ethnic category” the following paragraph:-

47 “Sexual orientation”, having an orientation for or being identified as having an  
48 orientation, for heterosexuality, bisexuality, or homosexuality.

49 SECTION 6. Subsection (b) of section 89 of said chapter 119 of the General Laws, as so  
50 appearing, is hereby further amended by striking the words “mental health care system”, and  
51 inserting in place thereof the words “mental health care and child welfare systems”

52 SECTION 7. Chapter 119 of the General Laws, as appearing in section 80 of chapter 69  
53 of the acts of 2018, is hereby amended by inserting after section 89 the following section:

54 Section 90. Collection and Reporting of Juvenile Justice Data

55 (a) As used in this section the following words shall, unless the context clearly requires  
56 otherwise, have the following meaning:—

57 (1) “Justice system decision point” shall refer to set points in the justice process where a  
58 criminal justice agency makes a decision which results in a change in a juvenile’s status,  
59 including, but not limited to: decisions to refer a juvenile to a diversion program; to arrest a  
60 juvenile or issue a court summons; to hold a juvenile in custody prior to arraignment; to file a  
61 delinquency or criminal complaint; to advance a delinquency or criminal complaint; to proceed  
62 with a prosecution; to make a finding as to legal competency; to issue an indictment; to arraign a  
63 juvenile; to dismiss a case; to hold a hearing regarding dangerousness; to detain a juvenile  
64 without bail; to transfer a case to district or superior Court; to impose bail; to impose pretrial  
65 release conditions; to revoke bail; to admit a juvenile to detention; to continue a case without a  
66 finding; to adjudicate a juvenile; to issue a disposition; to place a juvenile on probation; to issue  
67 probation conditions; to commit a juvenile to the Department of Youth Services; to sentence a  
68 juvenile to serve time in an adult custodial facility; to refer a juvenile to a court for a probation  
69 violation; to revoke a juvenile’s probation; to confine a juvenile; to change a juvenile’s  
70 placement type in a custodial facility; to issue a grant of conditional liberty; to revoke a grant of  
71 conditional liberty; to grant parole after an initial parole hearing; to grant parole after a  
72 subsequent review hearing; to revoke parole; to certify or deny sealing or expungement petition,  
73 pursuant to sections 100B, 100F and 100G of Chapter 276 of the General Laws.

74 (2) “Juvenile” shall be defined pursuant to Section 89 of Chapter 119 of the General  
75 Laws.

76 (b) All criminal justice agencies, as defined by Section 89 of Chapter 119 of the General  
77 Laws, shall comply with data requests from the child advocate pursuant to section 15 of Chapter  
78 18C regarding decisions made impacting juveniles at justice system decision points. The  
79 attorney general may enforce the provisions of this paragraph by a suit in equity commenced in  
80 the superior court.

81 (c) The department of state police, municipal police departments, Massachusetts Bay  
82 Transportation Authority police, any police or law enforcement officer stationed at or affiliated  
83 with a local education authority, and any contractor, vendor or service-provider working with  
84 such police including any alternative lock-up programs, shall collect and provide the necessary  
85 information to comply with the data request from the child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of  
86 Chapter 18C for each juvenile subjected to the following contacts for each fiscal year, provided  
87 on a quarterly basis if requested by the child advocate:

88 (1) referral to and/or use of diversion programming; and

89 (2) custodial arrests and issuance of court summons

90 (d) Clerk magistrates shall collect and provide the necessary information to comply with  
91 the data request from the child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 18C for each juvenile  
92 subjected to the following contacts for each fiscal year, provided on a quarterly basis if requested  
93 by the child advocate:

94 (1) application for complaint filed;

95 (2) finding of probable cause;

96 (3) diversion from further court proceedings, including referral to and/or use of diversion  
97 programming;

98 (4) complaint issued;

99 (5) appeal to judge of the finding by the clerk magistrate; and

100 (6) complaint issued after appeal.

101 (e) The district attorneys shall collect and provide the necessary information to comply  
102 with the data request from the child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 18C for each  
103 juvenile subjected to the following contacts for each fiscal year, provided on a quarterly basis if  
104 requested by the child advocate:

105 (1) decision not to proceed with prosecution, including but not limited to entering a nolle  
106 prosequi or moving to dismiss a case;

107 (2) diversion from further court proceedings, including referral to and/or use of diversion  
108 programming;

109 (3) decision to proceed with dangerousness hearing pursuant to section 58A of chapter  
110 276

111 (4) indictment as a youthful offender;

112 (5) dismissal of indictment/dismissal of indictment in exchange for other action; and

113 (6) prosecution in criminal court under section 74 of chapter 119 of the General Laws.



114 (f) The juvenile court department shall collect and provide the necessary information to  
115 comply with the data request from the child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 18C for  
116 each juvenile subjected to the following contacts for each fiscal year, provided on a quarterly  
117 basis if requested by the child advocate:

118 (1) arraignment as a delinquent

119 (2) arraignment as a youthful offender;

120 (3) diversion from further court proceedings, including referral to and/or use of diversion  
121 programming pursuant to section 54A of chapter 119 of the General Laws;

122 (4) court hearing on dangerousness pursuant to section 58A of chapter 276 of the General  
123 Laws;

124 (5) competency hearing;

125 (6) transfer of case to adult criminal court under section 72A of chapter 119 of the  
126 General Laws;

127 (7) imposition of bail or order to hold without bail;

128 (8) imposition of pretrial release conditions, including pre-trial probation pursuant to  
129 section 87 of chapter 276 of the General Laws;

130 (9) bail revocation hearings;

131 (10) cases which are continued without a finding pursuant to section 18 of chapter 278  
132 and to section 58 of chapter 119 of the General Laws;

- 133 (11) dismissal of charges;
- 134 (12) adjudication as a delinquent;
- 135 (13) adjudication as a youthful offender;
- 136 (14) imposition of an adult sentence pursuant to section 58 of chapter 119 of the General  
137 Laws;
- 138 (15) disposition, including but not limited to:
- 139 I. sentence to probation;
- 140 ii. commitment to the department of youth services pursuant to section 58 of chapter 119  
141 of the General Laws;
- 142 (16) commitment to the department of youth services pursuant to section 2 of chapter 279  
143 of the General Laws that are suspended;
- 144 (17) juvenile brought before the court on criminal and non-criminal violations of  
145 probation;
- 146 (18) commitments to department of youth services following a probation violation; and
- 147 (19) revocation of a continuation without a finding pursuant to pursuant to section 18 of  
148 chapter 278 and to section 58 of chapter 119 of the General Laws;
- 149 (g) The office of the commissioner of probation shall collect and provide the necessary  
150 information to comply with the data request from the child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of

151 Chapter 18C for each juvenile subjected to the following contacts for each fiscal year, provided  
152 on a quarterly basis if requested by the child advocate:

153 (1) referral to and/or use of diversion programming;

154 (2) supervision of pre-trial probation;

155 (3) supervision of continuances without a finding;

156 (4) supervision of juvenile on probation; and

157 (5) referral to the court for a probation violation.

158 (6) number of petitions and number of allowances and denials on petitions for sealing,  
159 pursuant to section 100B of Chapter 276 of the General Laws;

160 (7) number of petitions and number of allowances and denials of petitions for  
161 expungement, pursuant to sections 100F, 100G and 100H of Chapter 276 of the General Laws;

162 (8) number of petitions and number of allowances and denials of petitions for  
163 expungement, pursuant to section 100K of Chapter 276 of the General Laws.

164 (9) number of petitions and number of allowances and denials on petitions for sealing,  
165 pursuant to section 100A of Chapter 276 of the General Laws;

166 (h) The department of youth services and any contractor, vendor or service provider  
167 working with said department including alternative lock-up programs shall collect and provide  
168 the necessary information to comply with the data request from the child advocate pursuant to  
169 Section 15 of Chapter 18C for each juvenile subjected to the following contacts for each fiscal  
170 year, provided on a quarterly basis if requested by the child advocate:

- 171 (1) pre-arraignment detention;
- 172 (2) pre-trial detention;
- 173 (3) commitment;
- 174 (4) placement type, including, but not limited to, security level
- 175 (5) notice of revocation of grants of conditional liberty;
- 176 (6) hearing on grants of conditional liberty; and
- 177 (7) revocation of grants of conditional liberty for violation of conditions of liberty; and
- 178 (8) voluntary extensions of commitments with the department of youth services.

179 (I) The district and superior court shall collect and provide the necessary information to  
180 comply with the data request from the child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 18C for  
181 each juvenile subjected to the following contacts for each fiscal year, provided on a quarterly  
182 basis if requested by the child advocate:

- 183 (1) arraignment for murder in the first degree and murder in the second degree; and
- 184 (2) convictions.

185 (j) The department of correction and each sheriff's department shall collect and provide  
186 the necessary information to comply with the data request from the child advocate pursuant to  
187 Section 15 of Chapter 18C for each juvenile subjected to the following contacts for each fiscal  
188 year, provided on a quarterly basis if requested by the child advocate:

- 189 (1) pre-arraignment detention;

- 190 (2) pre-trial detention;
- 191 (3) post-disposition confinement of youthful offenders; and
- 192 (4) post-conviction confinement for murder.

193 (k) The parole board shall collect and provide the necessary information to comply with  
194 the data request from the child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 18C for each juvenile  
195 subjected to the following contacts for each fiscal year, provided on a quarterly basis if requested  
196 by the child advocate:

- 197 (1) grant of parole after an initial parole hearing;
- 198 (2) grant of parole after a subsequent review hearing;
- 199 (3) supervision of parole; and
- 200 (4) revocation of parole.

201 (l) The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security shall be responsible for  
202 assembling the data requested by the child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 18C  
203 collected by the below offices and departments. Said data shall be provided to the Office of the  
204 Child Advocate no later than 75 days after the end of the fiscal year or quarter if the child  
205 advocate requests data on a quarterly basis.

- 206 1. The Commissioner of the Department of Correction
- 207 2. Sheriffs of each County;
- 208 3. The Parole Board;

- 209 4. The Department of the State Police;
- 210 5. Municipal police departments;
- 211 6. The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Police;
- 212 7. School based police, including those from any local education authority;
- 213 8. Alternative Lock-up Programs; and
- 214 9. any other contractor, vendor or service provider working with school based or other
- 215 police officers.

216 (m) The Massachusetts District Attorneys Association shall be responsible of assembling

217 data requested by the child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 18C collected by District

218 Attorney's Offices. Said data shall be provided to the Office of the Child Advocate no later than

219 75 days after the end of the fiscal year or quarter if the child advocate requests data on a

220 quarterly basis.

221 (n) The Court Administrator shall be responsible for assembling data requested by the

222 child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 18C collected by judicial officers and court

223 personnel including the Commissioner of Probation, judicial officers and court personnel, and

224 the Executive Director of Community Correction. Said data shall be provided to the Office of the

225 Child Advocate no later than 75 days after the end of the fiscal year or quarter if the child

226 advocate requests data on a quarterly basis.

227 (o) The Department of Youth Services shall be responsible for assembling data requested

228 by the child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 18C collect by all department personnel,

229 contractors or vendors working with the Department. Said data shall be provided to the Office of

230 the Child Advocate no later than 75 days after the end of the fiscal year or quarter if the child  
231 advocate requests data on a quarterly basis.

232 (p) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the child advocate may request, and all  
233 Offices and Departments subject to this law shall provide upon request, individual level data to  
234 facilitate analysis by the Office of the Child Advocate, provided that the child advocate shall be  
235 bound by any limitations on the use or release of such individual-level data imposed by law upon  
236 the party furnishing such information as described in Section 12 of Chapter 18C. Any individual  
237 data described or acquired under the provisions of this section shall be used only for statistical  
238 purposes and may not be disseminated if it contains data that reveal the identity of an individual  
239 who had contact with the juvenile justice system within the meaning of this chapter.

240 (q) If any Offices or Departments subject to this law are unable to fulfill the data request  
241 made by the child advocate, in whole or in part, they shall submit to the child advocate a report  
242 detailing what data could not be provided, stating clearly the reason data could not be provided,  
243 and clearly documenting the efforts the Office or Department has made and will make to ensure  
244 data can be provided in the future. If the data cannot be provided due to budgetary constraints,  
245 the Office or Department shall provide a budget detailing the additional funding required to  
246 fulfill the data request. These reports on data availability shall be included in the annual juvenile  
247 justice data report of the child advocate pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 18C and shall be a  
248 matter of public record.