

HOUSE No. 1867

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Christopher M. Markey

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 emerging adult life sentences for first-degree murder.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Christopher M. Markey</i>	<i>9th Bristol</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 1867

By Representative Markey of Dartmouth, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1867) of Christopher M. Markey relative to emerging adult life sentences for first-degree murder. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 4813 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to emerging adult life sentences for first-degree murder.

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 24 of chapter 279 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting this third paragraph, after the second paragraph, the following
3 paragraph: -

4 In the case of a sentence of life imprisonment for murder in the first degree committed by
5 a person on or after the person's eighteenth birthday and before the person's twenty-first birthday,
6 the court shall fix a minimum term of not less than 30 years nor more than 60 years; provided,
7 however, that in the case of a sentence of life imprisonment for murder in the first degree with
8 extreme atrocity or cruelty committed by a person on or after the person's eighteenth birthday
9 and before the person's twenty-first birthday, the court shall fix a minimum term of 40 years nor
10 more than 60 years; and provided further, that in the case of a sentence of life imprisonment for

11 murder in the first degree with deliberately premeditated malice aforethought committed by a
12 person on or after the person's eighteenth birthday and before the person's twenty-first birthday,
13 the court shall fix a minimum term of not less than 35 years nor more than 60 years.