

SENATE No. 1145

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Robyn K. Kennedy

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 the definition of strangulation.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Robyn K. Kennedy

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Worcester

SENATE No. 1145

By Ms. Kennedy, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1145) of Robyn K. Kennedy for legislation to define strangulation. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the definition of strangulation.

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 15D of Chapter 265, as so appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby
2 amended by striking out the words in lines 7 through 9 and inserting in place thereof the
3 following words:-

4 “Strangulation”, means intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly impeding the normal
5 breathing or circulation of the blood of a person by applying pressure to the throat or neck,
6 regardless of whether that conduct results in any visible injury or whether there is any intent to
7 kill or protractedly injure the victim.