

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
BILL SUMMARY**

**BILL NO.** H2044

**TITLE:** An Act relative to petit treason

**SPONSOR:** Rep. Tommy Vitolo

**COSPONSORS:** None

**HEARING DATE:** May 6, 2025

**PRIOR HISTORY:** H1811 (2023-2024)  
H1916 (2021-2022)

**SENATE BILL:** S1070 (DiDomenico)

**CURRENT LAW:** Section 1 of Chapter 265 of the General Law defines various degrees of murder and its punishments. It states that petit treason shall be prosecuted and punishable as murder.

**BILL SUMMARY:** Section 1 – This removes the language in Section 1 of Chapter 265 stating that petit treason will be prosecuted and punished as murder.