

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Shaunna L. O'Connell***

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*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 prohibiting name-changing for registered sex offenders.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Shaunna L. O'Connell</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>
<i>Marc T. Lombardo</i>	<i>22nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>
<i>William L. Crocker, Jr.</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Alyson M. Sullivan</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>
<i>F. Jay Barrows</i>	<i>1st Bristol</i>
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>
<i>Alan Silvia</i>	<i>7th Bristol</i>
<i>Norman J. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>

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By Mrs. O'Connell of Taunton, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Shaunna L. O'Connell and others relative to prohibiting registered sex offenders from changing names. The Judiciary.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act prohibiting name-changing for registered sex offenders.

*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. Section 178E of chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:-

3           (r) A sex offender required to register pursuant to sections 178C to 178P, inclusive, shall  
4 not hold him or herself out under any other name except the name by which such sex offender  
5 registered under this section.

6           SECTION 2. Section 178H of said chapter 6, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
7 inserting, in line 4, after the word “information” the following words:- ; or (v) fails to comply  
8 with subsection (r) of section 178E.

9           SECTION 3. Section 1D of chapter 46 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
10 amended by adding the following paragraph:-

11           A party to a marriage who is a sex offender as defined in section 178C of chapter 6 may  
12 not adopt or use any other surname than that which such party is required to register pursuant to  
13 sections 178C to 178P, inclusive of said chapter 6.

14           SECTION 4. Section 12 of chapter 210 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
15 amended by adding the following sentence:- No change of name shall be granted for a person  
16 listed as a sex offender on the sex offender registry under section 178D of chapter 6.