



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

**PAUL HEROUX**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
2ND BRISTOL DISTRICT

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**RE: H111 An Act to promote client and worker safety in the Department of Youth Services**  
**DT: 9 September 2015**

Dear Honorable Chairs and Members of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities,

Thank you for hearing *H111, An Act to promote client and worker safety in the Department of Youth Services* before your committee on June 16<sup>th</sup> of this year.

This bill would create a commission to evaluate the procedures currently in place to handle violent episodes between the Department of Youth Services' workers and the youth that they serve; with the goal of reducing their occurrences and lessening their impact. The commission would seek to not only protect the service provides within the Department of Youth Services but also the youth they help. The commission would also require the reporting of the number of 51A child abuse investigations, both substantiated and un-substantiated. It would include additional statistics on 51As filed against Department of Youth Services' workers who may have acquired them during the course of their work.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. I respectfully request that *H111, An Act to promote client and worker safety in the Department of Youth Services* be released favorably and expeditiously from your committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Heroux".

Paul Heroux