



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

**STATE SENATOR
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**MOORE SPONSORS LEGISLATION RELATIVE TO REPORTING MISSING
CHILDREN**

Boston – Senator Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury) has signed on as the lead Senate sponsor of legislation based on “Caylee’s Law” to require parents to report the death of a child.

“The purpose of this law is to make it a crime for any parent or guardian to deliberately or knowingly conceal, for more than 24 hours, the fact that a child has died,” said Sen. Moore. “This legislation is not aimed at those who properly deal with a traumatic situation involving their child, by calling for emergency services or otherwise notifying law enforcement or medical personnel. This legislation is aimed at those who conceal the fact that a child has died, out of fear of their own criminal culpability in the death or as a result of extreme incompetence.”

An Act Protecting Children would mandate that any parent, legal guardian, or caretaker of a minor child, who has knowledge of the death of said minor child, and who fails to notify law enforcement or emergency medical personnel of the death of said minor child within 24 hours, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than five years or by a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars and imprisonment in jail or a house of correction for not more than two and one half years.

The National Conference of State Legislatures reports that more than 20 states are considering similar legislation, in the wake of the criminal trial of Casey Anthony in Florida.

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