



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

SENATOR STEVEN A. BADDOUR

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September 9, 2009

The Honorable James E. Timilty  
State House, Room 518  
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Michael A. Costello  
State House, Room 167  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairmen Timilty and Costello,

I would like to express my strong support in favor of Senate Bill 910, "*An Act Establishing the Massachusetts Missing Child Clearinghouse.*"

In Massachusetts there are over 1,000 children reported currently missing. Massachusetts has no "missing children" clearing house or central coordinated repository for information as it relates to reporting, dissemination, or recovery information regarding our missing kids. Because of the transient nature of missing children, either by virtue of being a runaway, lured away or abducted, cases of missing children often involve multiple jurisdictions. As a consequence of the multi-jurisdictional nature of these cases, our children often become lost within or between jurisdictional systems - be it social services, law enforcement or communities.

With this legislation we hope to streamline information regarding missing or abducted kids creating a better, more coordinated response by all systems. In addition, we will expand community awareness and provide an avenue for heightened community involvement in locating and helping protect our children.

Thank you for your consideration on this piece of legislation. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you require additional information or have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Baddour  
State Senator  
First Essex District