

Emails from Gretchen Bennett (New England Innocence Project)

“I would be happy to talk to you about this. I recently participated on a panel at New England Law Boston (with Judge Gertner, Judge Cordy, and Brandon Garrett) where I outlined the history of the efforts to get this bill passed. There is some chance that was recorded and might be available. The event was sponsored by their law review. There was also an article in the Boston Globe Magazine last November that might be helpful. Do you have the BBA's report? David Meier and Marty Murphy chaired the Task Force, David Siegel and Greg Massing largely authored the language of the bill (with input from many stakeholders) and the whole tf signed on. 4 members of NEIP's board were on the task force, including David Meier and David Siegel. When the language was agreed upon David Meier, Marty Murphy, David Siegel, and I worked with the BBA's government relations director to get the bill passed.”

“I think the transcript of the house session is somewhere on our website. Rep. Fernandes was wonderful. I don't know if there is a transcript of the senate session last summer but Sen. Creem was terrific as well. **The people who testified in the judiciary hearing were David Meier, Marty Murphy, Greg Massing, David Siegel, Me, Betty Anne Waters, Dennis Maher, James Connolly, Robert Merner.** I'm sure there is a transcript of that session but we don't have it (and I doubt any of the people who testified do). You'd have to ask someone at the state house how to get that. Have you reached out to Sen Creem and/or Rep Fernandes' offices to see what they might have? I don't know what happens to the written testimony that gets submitted. You might also reach out to Michael Blanding, the reporter who wrote the piece for the Globe. He collected a lot of materials through FOIA requests and might be willing to share with you.”

[emphasis added]