

HOUSE No. 1620

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Eugene L. O'Flaherty

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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to require the reporting of satisfaction of judgments awarding money damages.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Eugene L. O'Flaherty

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

2nd Suffolk

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE REPORTING OF SATISFACTION OF JUDGMENTS AWARDING MONEY DAMAGES.

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. [Small claims.] Chapter 218 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting
2 after section 25, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, the following section:-

3 Section 25A. Any party who obtains a judgment for money damages under the procedure
4 shall, within 60 days after full satisfaction of such judgment, file a notice of satisfaction of
5 judgment with the court that issued the judgment. Any party who fails to do so shall be liable to
6 the judgment debtor for any costs and attorneys fees awarded on motion in the court's discretion
7 that were reasonably incurred in proving that the judgment was satisfied in full. This section
8 shall not apply to a judgment that has been satisfied by levy of execution.

9 SECTION 2. [Civil cases.] Chapter 235 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
10 inserting after section 13, as so appearing, the following section:-

11 Section 13A. Any party who obtains a judgment for money damages shall, within 60
12 days after full satisfaction of such judgment, file a notice of satisfaction of judgment with the
13 court that issued the judgment. Any party who fails to do so shall be liable to the judgment
14 debtor for any costs and attorneys fees awarded on motion in the court's discretion that were
15 reasonably incurred in proving that the judgment was satisfied in full. This section shall not
16 apply to a judgment that has been satisfied by levy of execution.

17 SECTION 3. [Summary process.] Chapter 239 of the General Laws is hereby amended
18 by inserting after section 3, as so appearing, the following section:-

19 Section 3A. Any party who obtains a judgment under this chapter that includes money
20 damages for rent shall, within 60 days after full satisfaction of such judgment, file a notice of

21 satisfaction of judgment with the court that issued the judgment. Any party who fails to do so
22 shall be liable to the judgment debtor for any costs and attorneys fees awarded on motion in the
23 court's discretion that were reasonably incurred in proving that the judgment was satisfied in
24 full. This section shall not apply to a money judgment that has been satisfied by levy of
25 execution.