

HOUSE No. 1648

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Shaunna L. O'Connell and Geoff Diehl

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act enhancing public awareness of tax and fee increases.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Shaunna L. O'Connell</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>
<i>Geoff Diehl</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>
<i>Kate D. Campanale</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>
<i>James J. Lyons, Jr.</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>

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By Representatives O'Connell of Taunton and Diehl of Whitman, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1648) of Shaunna L. O'Connell and others for legislation to require the committees on Ways and Means of both branches of the General Court to conduct certain hearings on measures that would increase or expand any new or existing taxes or fees. Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act enhancing public awareness of tax and fee increases.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 3 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 38B the following section:-

3 Section 38B½. The committee on ways and means of each branch of the general court
4 shall conduct no less than 5 public hearings on bills reported favorably by the committee that
5 purport to establish, increase or expand any new or existing taxes or fees; provided that hearings
6 on local bills will not be required. The committees shall give 3 days' public notice prior to
7 holding such public hearings. Each hearing shall be conducted in a distinct geographical region
8 of the commonwealth.