

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3943**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Thomas J. Calter*

*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 relative to the underground economy.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Thomas J. Calter</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>
<i>Leonard Mirra</i>	<i>2nd Essex</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Daniel J. Hunt</i>	<i>13th Suffolk</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Mathew Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>
<i>Robert M. Koczera</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>

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By Mr. Calter of Kingston, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Thomas J. Calter and others for legislation to reward whistleblowers who contribute to the prosecution of individuals and businesses operating in the "underground economy". Labor and Workforce Development.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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An Act relative to the underground economy.

*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 25 of chapter 23 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by inserting the following subsection:—

3 (e) An individual who reports a suspected violation of, section 2 of chapter 62B, sections  
4 148 and 148C of chapter 149, sections 13 and 14 chapter 151A or section 25A of chapter 152 to  
5 the council or any other authority charged with enforcement, which substantially contributes to  
6 the prosecution of a violation thereof, shall receive 10 per cent of the proceeds recovered and  
7 collected in the action or in settlement of the claim; provided further, that nothing in this  
8 subsection shall reduce an award of wages owed to an employee pursuant to section 148 of  
9 chapter 149. Neither the council nor any enforcement agency shall disclose any information,  
10 including information provided by a whistleblower, which could reasonably be expected to  
11 reveal the identity of a whistleblower, unless and until required to be disclosed to a defendant or  
12 respondent in connection with a public proceeding.