

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1497**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Thomas P. Kennedy*

*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 expanding the authority of the bureau of special investigations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Thomas P. Kennedy*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Second Plymouth and Bristol*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1497**

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By Mr. Kennedy, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1497) of Thomas P. Kennedy for legislation to expand the authority of the bureau of special investigations. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION

SEE

□ □ SENATE  
□ , NO. 1589 OF 2011-2012.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
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An Act expanding the authority of the bureau of special investigations.

*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. Section 15D of Chapter 22 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1992  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence and inserting in place  
3 thereof the following sentence:— The director shall initiate investigations and investigate  
4 complaints, including complaints initiated by recipients, which indicate the possibility of either a  
5 fraudulent claim for payment or services under any assistance program administered by the  
6 department of public welfare and the department of social services, or a local or regional housing  
7 authority, or any program administered by said departments or local or regional housing  
8 authority, or a receipt of payment or services by a person not entitled thereto.

9 SECTION 2. Subsection (1) of said section 15D of said chapter 22, as so appearing, is  
10 hereby amended by inserting, in line 13, after the words “the department of social services” the  
11 words:— or any program administered by a local or regional housing authority.

12 SECTION 3. Subsection (2) of said section 15D of said chapter 22, as so appearing, is  
13 hereby amended by inserting, in line 15, after the words “the department of social services” the  
14 words:— a local or regional housing authority,.

15 SECTION 4. Subsection (3) of said section 15D of said chapter 22, as so appearing, is  
16 hereby amended by inserting, in line 26, after the words “the department of social services” the  
17 words:— or any program administered by a local or regional housing authority,.

18 SECTION 5. Subsection (4) of said section 15D of said chapter 22, as so appearing, is  
19 hereby amended by inserting, in line 35, after the words “the department of social services” the  
20 words:— or a local or regional housing authority,.

21 SECTION 6. Said section 15D of said chapter 22, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
22 inserting after subsection (9) the following subsection:—

23 (10) In any instance where the Director of the Bureau of Special Investigations finds  
24 there is information or material suggesting or indicating ineligibility for any form of assistance,  
25 service, or program administered by a local or regional housing authority, the Director of the  
26 Bureau of Special Investigations shall report that information or material to the appropriate  
27 housing authority director for purposes of eligibility determination, certification, verification,  
28 tenant selection, or any other purpose or use authorized by law. In any instance where the  
29 Director of the Bureau of Special Investigations finds there is probable cause to believe that there  
30 has been a fraudulent claim, payment or receipt of assistance or services in any program  
31 administered by a local or regional housing authority, the Director of the Bureau of Special  
32 Investigations shall report that case to the attorney general or a district attorney for such action as  
33 the attorney general or district attorney deems appropriate.

34 SECTION 7. Section 32 of Chapter 121B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1992  
35 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, in line 27, after the word “authority”, the  
36 words:— and may be subject to substantiation by the bureau of special investigations of the  
37 commonwealth, as established in section fifteen B of chapter twenty-two, pursuant to regulations  
38 promulgated by the department of community affairs in cooperation with the department of  
39 public safety.