

SENATE No. 47

Senate, April 15, 2015 -- Offered by Senator Mark C. Montigny relative to a committee division implementation plan.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Senate, April 15, 2015.



**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

1 *Ordered*, that the Senate Committee on Rules shall develop an implementation plan to
2 withdraw from the existing joint committee structure and to establish separate Senate committees
3 to receive, hear and report on all legislative matters which may come before the Senate. The
4 Committee shall draw upon best practices from the forty-six states that employ separate branch
5 committees to develop a system that is transparent, responsive and efficient. In forming the
6 implementation plan, the Committee shall consider: the total number, titles, jurisdictions, and
7 members of the Senate committees; the need to replicate reporting and other deadlines; the
8 allocation of personnel, space and other resources; procedures for joint hearings by separate
9 branch committees; and any changes that may be needed to the Senate Rules or state statutes to
10 facilitate a smooth transition.