

HOUSE No. 4496

Section 168 contained in the engrossed Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2017 (see House, No. 4450), which had been returned by His Excellency the Governor with recommendation of amendment (for message, see Attachment O of House, No. 4505). July 11, 2016.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to a department of transitional assistance fraud detection report.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide for a department of transitional assistance fraud detection report, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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. The department of transitional assistance, in collaboration with the
2 executive office of health and human services, shall provide a report on current fraud detection
3 measures within the agency and department to reduce fraud in public assistance benefit programs
4 and to study the feasibility of implementing a biometric authentication system. The report shall
5 include, but not be limited to, the cost savings that would result from the elimination of duplicate
6 assistance fraud in public assistance programs and the feasibility of using biometric technology
7 to create a reliable system of identification. The report, along with any legislative
8 recommendations, shall be filed with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives within
9 90 days after the effective date of this act.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect as of July 1, 2016.