SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1154 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

SENATE . . . . . No. 1447

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James B. Eldridge

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:

An Act establishing biannual tax incidence reports.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
James B. Eldridge	☐ *[District]* ☐
Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.	*34th Middlesex*
William N. Brownsberger	☐ *[District]* ☐
Sheila C. Harrington	*1st Middlesex*

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By Mr. Eldridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1447) of James B. Eldridge, Carl M. Sciortino, Jr., William N. Brownsberger and Sheila C. Harrington for legislation to establish biannual tax independence reports. Revenue.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
SENATE
, NO. *1265* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act establishing biannual tax incidence reports.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 14 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 12. The commissioners of revenue shall report to the general court by March 1 of each odd-numbered year on the overall incidence of the income tax, sales and excise taxes, and property tax. The report shall present information on the distribution of the tax burden (1) for the overall income distribution, using a system wide incidence measure such as the Suits index or other appropriate measures of equality and inequality, (2) by income classes, including at a minimum deciles of the income distribution , and (3 by other appropriate taxpayer characteristics.

At the request of the chairs of the joint committee on taxation, the commissioner shall prepare an incidence impact analysis of a bill or a proposal to change the tax system which increases, decreases, or redistributes taxes by more than $20,000,000. To the extent data is available on the changes in the distribution of the tax burden that are affected by the bill or proposal, the analysis shall report on the incidence effects that would result if the bill were enacted. The report may present information using system wide measures, such as Suits or other similar indexes, by income classes, taxpayer characteristics, or other relevant categories. The report may include analyses of the effect of the bill or proposal on representative taxpayers.

18 The analysis must include a statement of the incidence assumptions that were used in computing
19 the burdens.

20 The incident analysis shall use the broadest measure of economic income for
21 which reliable data is available.