

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1429**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

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

37 promulgated by the department of community affairs in cooperation with the department of  
38 public safety.