

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1369**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Kenneth I. Gordon, (BY REQUEST)***

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*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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to provide security to occupants when owners change locks.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

DATE ADDED:

*Karen Cooper*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1369**

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By Mr. Gordon of Bedford (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1369) of Karen Cooper relative to criminalizing unauthorized entry of a dwelling by changing or tampering with locks. The Judiciary.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
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An Act to provide security to occupants when owners change locks.

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

1 Chapter 266 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting, after section 18A, the  
2 following section: -

3 Section 18B. Any person who attempts to enter a dwelling place without authority or  
4 permission of the resident or occupant (unless such permission is provided within a written lease  
5 agreement) by altering or changing any locking device upon any such building without an order  
6 of a court of competent jurisdiction, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not  
7 more than 5 years or a fine of not more than \$500 or by imprisonment in jail for not more than 2  
8 years.