

HOUSE No. 1758

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Keiko M. Orrall

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 relative to the commission on unemployment benefits eligibility.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Keiko M. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Bradford R. Hill</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>
<i>Mathew Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>	<i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>
<i>Leah Cole</i>	<i>12th Essex</i>

HOUSE No. 1758

By Mrs. Orrall of Lakeville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1758) of Keiko M. Orrall and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the unemployment benefit eligibility system. Labor and Workforce Development.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the commission on unemployment benefits eligibility.

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. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall
2 be a special commission to study and report on the effectiveness of the current unemployment
3 benefits eligibility system. The commission shall consist of the Secretary of the Executive Office
4 of Labor and Workforce, or a designee; the Director of Unemployment Insurance, or a designee;
5 the Director of the Department of Career Services, or a designee; the House and Senate Chairs of
6 the Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce, or a designee; one representative from the
7 Associated Industry of Massachusetts; one representative from the Small Business Association;
8 one representative from the Massachusetts AFL-CIO; and one minority appointment from the
9 Minority Leader in both the House and Senate.

10 (b) The commission shall investigate any possible abuse of the use of unemployment
11 benefits including, but not limited to, individuals applying for and receiving benefits annually or
12 semiannually, individuals repeatedly receiving benefits on off seasons of their particular

13 employment, individuals failing to comply with standards set relative to searching for jobs and
14 using career service centers, employers failing to report layoffs, and employers intentionally
15 laying off employees with intent to rehire.

16 (c) The commission shall report its findings to the Senate and House Clerks and make
17 recommendations to the legislature by January 1, 2016.