

SENATE No. 1357

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael F. Rush

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 enhancing the safety of bank customers and employees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Michael F. Rush</i>	<i>Norfolk and Suffolk</i>	
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>

SENATE No. 1357

By Mr. Rush, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1357) of Michael F. Rush, Paul
McMurtry and Richard J. Ross for legislation relative to bank robberies and collection of
fraudulent checks. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1296 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act enhancing the safety of bank customers and employees.

*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 40a of chapter 93 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding after the last sentence in the first paragraph the
3 following new sentence:— Action taken under this section may be brought before the court where
4 either the plaintiff or defendant lives or has a place of business or employment.

5 SECTION 2. Section 17 of chapter 265 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
6 amended by striking out said section and inserting in place thereof the following new section:—

7 Section 17. Whoever, being armed with a dangerous weapon, assaults another and robs,
8 steals or takes from his person money or other property which may be the subject of larceny shall
9 be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for life or for any term of years; provided,

10 however, that any person who commits any offense described herein while masked or disguised
11 or while having his features artificially distorted, shall, for the first offense be sentenced to
12 imprisonment for not less than 5 years and for any subsequent offense for not less than 10 years.
13 Whoever commits any offense described herein while armed with a firearm, shotgun, rifle,
14 machine gun or assault weapon or displays what appears to be a firearm, improvised explosive
15 device or other deadly weapon, hypodermic needle or any other device that may cause or is
16 intended to inflict bodily injury or commits a robbery within and against a banking institution as
17 defined in section 1 of chapter 167A or a credit union as defined in section 1 of chapter 171 shall
18 be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 5 years. Any person who
19 commits a subsequent offense while armed with a firearm, shotgun, rifle, machine gun or assault
20 weapon or displays what appears to be a firearm, improvised explosive device or other deadly
21 weapon, hypodermic needle or any other device that may cause or is intended to inflict bodily
22 injury or commits a robbery within and against a banking institution as defined in section 1 of
23 chapter 167A or a credit union as defined in section 1 of chapter 171 shall be punished by
24 imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 15 years.

25 SECTION 3. Section 19 of said chapter 265 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is
26 hereby amended by striking out subsection (b) and inserting in place thereof the following
27 subsection (b):—Whoever, not being armed with a dangerous weapon, by force and violence, or
28 by assault and putting in fear, robs, steals or takes from the person of another, or from his
29 immediate control, money or other property which may be the subject of larceny, including
30 attempted robbery of a bank as defined in section 1 of chapter 167A or a credit union as defined
31 in section 1 of chapter 171 shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for life or for
32 any term of not less than 30 months.

33 SECTION 4. Section 30 of chapter 266 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is further
34 amended by adding to the end of paragraph (1) the following new sentence:– If the larceny
35 involved monies received through the uttering of a forged, altered or counterfeit check, draft or
36 order for the payment of money from any bank or other depository, action may be taken before
37 either the court having jurisdiction where the uttering took place or where the payee bank or
38 other depository’s main office is located.

39 SECTION 5. Section 37 of said chapter 266 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is
40 hereby amended by adding the following sentence to the end of said section:– Action taken
41 under this jurisdiction where the crime was committed or where the main office of the bank or
42 other depository are located.

43 SECTION 6. Section 37E of chapter 266 of the General Laws, as so appearing is hereby
44 amended by inserting after subparagraph (c) the following paragraph (d):–

45 Whoever is in unlawful possession of an identity scanning device when he or she
46 possesses any tool, instrument or other article adapted, designed or commonly used for
47 committing or facilitating offenses involving accessing a person's financial services account
48 number or code, savings account number or code, checking account number or code, brokerage
49 account number or code, credit card account number or code, debit card number or code,
50 automated teller machine number or code, personal identification number, mother's maiden
51 name, computer system password, electronic signature or unique biometric data that is a
52 fingerprint, voice print, retinal image or iris image of another person under circumstances
53 evincing an intent to use or knowledge that some person intends to use the same in the
54 commission of an offense shall be guilty of identity fraud and shall be punished by a fine of not

55 more than \$5,000 or imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than two and one-half
56 years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

57 SECTION 7: Section 37E of chapter 266 is hereby further amended by renumbering
58 subparagraph (d) to (e) and subparagraph (e) to (f).