

SENATE No. 1735

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mark C. Montigny

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 oversight of capital expenditures in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Mark C. Montigny

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Bristol and Plymouth

SENATE No. 1735

By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1735) of Mark C. Montigny for legislation relative to oversight of capital expenditures in the Commonwealth. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1688 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to oversight of capital expenditures in the Commonwealth.

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 29 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2014 official edition is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 71 the following new section:-

3 Section 72. (a) The treasurer of the Commonwealth, all quasi-public entities of the
4 Commonwealth and independent authorities of the commonwealth shall make biannual reports
5 on their borrowing practices. These reports shall be submitted to the Secretary of Administration
6 and Finance, the auditor of the commonwealth, the House and Senate chairs of the Committee on
7 Ways and Means, and to the Senate and House chairs of the Committee on Bonding, Capital
8 Expenditures & State Assets. This report shall include all transactions entered into, other than
9 fixed-rate borrowing, during the six month period prior to the report filing deadline. Reports
10 shall be due on the 30th day of April and the 31st day of October in each calendar year. The

11 report shall include all transactions related to derivative financial products. For purposes of this
12 section, derivative financial products shall be defined as financial instruments whose own value
13 is derived from or based upon the value of other assets or on the level of an interest rate index,
14 including, but not limited to a call option on a bond, an interest rate swap, caps, floors, collars,
15 inverse floaters, auction rate securities, or any other financial transaction other than fixed-rate,
16 long term borrowing. This report shall include the terms and conditions of each derivative
17 financial product transaction; the parties involved in negotiating each derivative financial
18 product transaction; copies of all agreements entered into between the parties relative to
19 derivative financial product transactions; the financial impact of each transaction including, but
20 not limited to, the interest rates, fluctuation in interest rates, and payments associated therewith;
21 and a written rationale of the treasurer of the Commonwealth, quasi-public entities of the
22 commonwealth as to how the determination to enter into such a transaction was made. The report
23 shall disclose any and all interactions with legislative agents or registered lobbyists in
24 conjunction with transactions defined in subsection (a); provided further that such report shall
25 also indicate whether the transaction was subject to a negotiated contract or an open bidding
26 process. The report shall be signed under the pains and penalties of perjury by the treasurer, on
27 behalf of the commonwealth; and by the chief financial officers of each quasi-public entity or
28 independent authority of the Commonwealth, and subject to review by the Secretary of
29 Administration and Finance. The report shall be made available to the public on the treasurer'
30 website.

31 (b) Prior to any such transaction described in subsection (a) being authorized, the
32 Secretary of Administration and Finance, in consultation with the State Treasurer, shall submit to
33 the clerks of the House of representatives and the Senate, the House and Senate Committees on

34 Ways and Means, and the House and Senate Committees on Bonding, Capital Expenditures &
35 State Assets, a report indicating that the Secretary of Administration and Finance and the
36 treasurer of the commonwealth approve of such transaction and provide written documentation
37 supporting their recommendation.

38 (c) The House and Senate Committees on Bonding, Capital Expenditures & State Assets
39 shall be authorized to hold oversight hearings regarding the capital programs of the
40 commonwealth; any quasi-public entity; or independent authority of the commonwealth;
41 provided further that the House and Senate Committees on Bonding, Capital Expenditures &
42 State Assets shall have the power to summon witnesses, administer oaths, take testimony and
43 compel the production of books, papers, documents and other evidence in connection with the
44 programs authorized pursuant to this act. If the committees shall deem special studies or
45 investigations to be necessary, they may undertake studies or investigations.