

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3442**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Denise Provost*

*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 award of attorney’s fees, staff time, costs and expenses in code enforcement matters.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/15/2019</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

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By Ms. Provost of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3442) of Denise Provost and others relative to the awarding of attorney’s fees, staff time, costs and expenses in code enforcement matters. The Judiciary.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 937 OF 2017-2018.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act relative to the award of attorney’s fees, staff time, costs and expenses in code enforcement matters.

*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.     Chapter 40 of the General Laws, appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is  
2 hereby amended by adding after section 60A the following new section:-

3           Section 61. Any governmental unit or entity, including but not limited to a city, town,  
4 state agency or department, specially created governmental entity, district, governmental or  
5 municipal body politic and corporate, or the like, either directly or acting through any of its  
6 officers, agents, officials, departments, commissions, agencies or the like, may, in any action  
7 filed in any court or agency seeking enforcement of any laws, rules or regulations within its  
8 jurisdiction, petition the court or agency for an award of attorney’s fees, reimbursement for staff

- 9 time, costs and other expenses related to the enforcement action and said sums may be so
- 10 awarded either as part of any general or specific relief granted or specifically for said purpose.