

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3439**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Elizabeth A. Poirier*

*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 financial records of defendants in small claims court.

PETITION OF:

| NAME:                       | DISTRICT/ADDRESS:   | DATE ADDED:     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i> | <i>14th Bristol</i> | <i>1/4/2019</i> |

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3439**

By Mrs. Poirier of North Attleborough, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3439) of Elizabeth A. Poirier relative to the financial records of defendants in small claims court. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 928 OF 2017-2018.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to financial records of defendants in small claims court.

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

1 An Act relative to financial records of defendants in small claims court.

2 Section 22 of chapter 218 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition,  
3 is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:-

4 Notwithstanding the foregoing, in a finding for a plaintiff of an amount due by a  
5 defendant, the procedure shall include a requirement for the defendant to provide, as applicable,  
6 to the court: the social security number of the defendant, the 4 most recent pay stubs of the  
7 defendant and the defendant’s spouse, the 3 most recent statements from each bank, credit union,  
8 credit card or other financial account of the defendant and the defendant’s spouse, the most

9 recent tax return of the defendant and any other financial documentation that the court may  
10 request.