

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1177**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Sal N. DiDomenico***

*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 enhanced enforcement of civil penalties.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	
<i>Attorney General Maura Healey</i>	<i>One Ashburton PLace</i>	<i>2/8/2021</i>
<i>Eric P. Lesser</i>	<i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>3/12/2021</i>
<i>Susan L. Moran</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>	<i>3/15/2021</i>

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By Mr. DiDomenico, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1177) of Sal N. DiDomenico, Attorney General Maura Healey, Eric P. Lesser and Susan L. Moran for legislation to enhance enforcement of civil penalties. Labor and Workforce Development.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1064 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to enhanced enforcement of civil penalties.

*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 27C of chapter 149, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is hereby amended  
2 by adding the following subsection:-

3           (d) As a further alternative to initiating criminal proceedings pursuant to subsection (a),  
4 the attorney general may file a civil action for injunctive relief, for any damages incurred, and for  
5 any lost wages and other benefits on behalf of an employee or multiple, similarly situated  
6 employees. If the attorney general prevails in such an action, the employee on whose behalf the  
7 attorney general brought the civil action shall be awarded treble damages, as liquidated damages,  
8 for any lost wages and other benefits, and the attorney general shall also be awarded the costs of  
9 the litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees.