

SENATE No. 172

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sonia Chang-Diaz

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 identity fraud.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Sonia Chang-Diaz

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Suffolk

SENATE No. 172

By Ms. Chang-Diaz, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 172) of Sonia Chang-Diaz for legislation relative to identity fraud. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 115 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to identity fraud.

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 24A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after Section 5 the following section:-

3 Section 6. Division of privacy protection

4 There shall be a division of privacy protection within the office of consumer affairs and
5 business regulation. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the director of
6 consumer affairs and business regulation, in consultation with the attorney general, shall create a
7 centralized repository to log complaints of identity fraud, refer processed complaints to local law
8 enforcement officials, and adopt rules and regulations regarding topics which may include, but
9 not be limited to, the intake, investigation and prosecution of identity fraud, consistent with this
10 section and designed to benefit consumers. The director of consumer affairs and business

11 regulation, in consultation with the attorney general, shall collect data from local police
12 departments regarding identity fraud regarding topics which may include, but not be limited to,
13 the intake, investigation and prosecution of identity fraud, consistent with this section and
14 designed to benefit consumers.

15 SECTION 2. Section 37E of Chapter 266 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
16 amended by inserting after subsection (f) the following subsection:-

17 (g) If the crime is reported in a jurisdiction other than where the victim resides, the local
18 law enforcement agency receiving the report shall refer the matter to the law enforcement agency
19 where the victim resides. Upon receipt of the police incident report, the local enforcement
20 agency shall begin an investigation of the facts. The investigation shall remain open until the
21 perpetrator is apprehended.