

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marcus S. Vaughn

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 assessing the costs of unemployment fraud.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Marcus S. Vaughn</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/8/2025</i>

HOUSE No.

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3123 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to assessing the costs of unemployment 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 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department of the state
2 auditor shall conduct a comprehensive audit of the department of unemployment assistance to
3 determine the level of unemployment fraud that has taken place during the 2019 novel
4 coronavirus pandemic, also known as COVID-19. The audit shall include, but not be limited to:
5 (1) a review and examination of the policies and procedures of the department of unemployment
6 assistance to prevent and address unemployment fraud; (2) a review of any and all costs to the
7 state and taxpayers due to unemployment fraud during the course of the pandemic; and (3) any
8 recommendations regarding how to improve the department of unemployment’s policies to
9 prevent unemployment fraud.

10 The department of the state auditor shall publish a report of its findings and make the
11 report available to the public not later than December 31, 2026.