

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Bradley H. Jones, Jr.***

*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 establishing a special commission on check washing crimes.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>

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

[Pin Slip]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act establishing a special commission on check washing crimes.

*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. There is hereby established a special legislative commission to identify  
2 ways the commonwealth can more effectively deter and prosecute check washing crimes. For the  
3 purposes of this section, “check washing” shall be defined as the act of intercepting a check or  
4 money order and chemically or otherwise altering the check or money order to change the name  
5 of the payee, the dollar amount, or both and fraudulently cashing or depositing, or attempting to  
6 cash or deposit, the check or money order.

7           The commission shall consist of the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on  
8 financial services, who shall co-chair the commission and convene its first meeting within 60  
9 days of the effective date of this act; the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on  
10 consumer protection and professional licensure; one member appointed by the senate president;  
11 one member appointed by the senate minority leader; one member appointed by the house  
12 speaker; one member appointed by the house minority leader; the commissioner of banks or their  
13 designee; a representative from the Massachusetts bankers association; the secretary of public

14 safety and security or their designee; a representative from the Massachusetts chiefs of police  
15 association; and two members appointed by the governor, one of whom shall be a retired postal  
16 worker or postmaster and one of whom shall have a minimum of five years of federal law  
17 enforcement experience.

18           The commission may convene one or more hearings to solicit input from the public. In  
19 conducting its investigation, the commission shall consider, but not be limited to: identifying  
20 ways to better protect consumers from falling victim to check washing schemes; determining  
21 appropriate penalties for those who engage in check washing; and identifying more effective  
22 means of prosecuting check washing crimes.

23           The commission shall file a report containing its findings, along with any legislative  
24 recommendations, with the clerk of the house and the clerk of the senate on or before June 30,  
25 2026.