Larceny Bill



S.2176 An Act relative to larceny

Summary



Raises the threshold of felony larceny and other property charges from \$250 to \$1,500, putting Massachusetts in line with other states.



A \$1,500 threshold is not a historically high level for Massachusetts. In 1906, the cutoff was set at \$100, which equates to roughly \$2,400 in today's dollars.



The current larceny threshold has not been updated since 1987.

The bill was the result of collaboration between multiple Senators



Senator William N. Brownsberger Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary @WBrownsberger



Senator James B. Eldridge @JamieEldridgeMA



Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz @SoniaChangDiaz

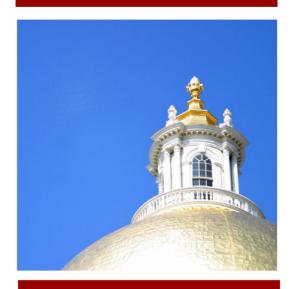


Senator Patricia D. Jehlen @SenJehlen



This legislation was passed on March 10, 2016

STATUS



Sent to House

RESPONSE



"If you have a felony on your criminal record, it makes a big difference for applying for jobs: You probably won't be hired. That conviction is going to create barriers for all kinds of opportunities"

Pauline Quirion, director of the criminal records sealing project at Greater Boston Legal Services

"If you stole a cell phone, that would be a felony under the current \$250 threshold. Now at \$1,500, it's something you would think is more appropriate."

Lew Finfer, a member of the Jobs Not Jails Coalition



INFOGRAPHICS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

MA Senate passes Larceny bill raising the threshold from \$250 to \$1500

@Ma_Senate



#CJReformMA