

**SENATE . . . . . No. 625**

---

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***William N. Brownsberger***

*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 penalties for shoplifting.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*William N. Brownsberger*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Second Suffolk and Middlesex*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 625**

---

---

By Mr. Brownsberger, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 625) of William N. Brownsberger for legislation relative to penalties for shoplifting. The Judiciary.

---

---

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 409 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to penalties for shoplifting.

*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 85R1/2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following two new  
2 paragraphs:

3 Any correspondence by a merchant, its agents or attorneys that asserts a claim against an  
4 individual arising under this section shall identify in detail all of the pertinent information on  
5 which the merchant bases its claim.

6 Except where a merchant has actually commenced an action for recovery of damages  
7 pursuant to this section and has obtained a civil damage award, the merchant, its agents or  
8 attorneys shall not solicit payment in reliance on this section (including by means of an offer of  
9 settlement) for an amount that exceeds the actual value of the merchandise not recovered and the  
10 reduction in saleable value of any recovered merchandise, plus fifty dollars, unless the person  
11 whose payment is solicited has been convicted, in connection with the same incident, of a  
12 criminal offense under section thirty A of chapter two hundred and sixty-six. Any person who  
13 solicits payment that exceeds this limitation shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500