By Mr. Kelleher of Boston, petition of Robert H. Quinn (Attorney General) and John G. Kelleher relative to the penalty for certain fraudulent welfare claims. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Three.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR FRAUDULENT WELFARE CLAIMS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 18 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
- 2 striking out section 5B as added by section 6 of chapter 885 of
- 3 the acts of 1969, and inserting in place thereof the following
- 4 section: -
- 5 Section 5B. Any person or institution which knowingly
- 6 makes a false representation to the department of public
- 7 welfare or the agents, for the purpose of causing any person,
- 8 including the person making such representations, to be sup-
- 9 ported in whole or in part by the commonwealth, or for the
- 10 purpose of procuring a payment under any assistance program
 11 administered by the department, shall be punished by a fine of
- 11 administered by the department, shall be punished by a fine of
- 12 not less than two hundred nor more than five hundred dollars 13 or by imprisonment for not more than one year.
- 14 Nothing in this section shall be construed as to prevent the
- 15 institution of criminal proceedings for the violation of any
- 16 other criminal statute of the commonwealth.