

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1617**

By Mr. Cellucci, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1617) of Argeo Paul Cellucci for legislation relative to the spending practices of the Commonwealth. Ways and Means.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Nine.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE SPENDING PRACTICES OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

*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 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting
- 2 after section 9F the following new section: —
- 3 Section 9G. No more than one quarter of the money
- 4 appropriated in any act shall be encumbered or, if not encumbered
- 5 at a prior time, expended in the last quarter of the fiscal year.
- 6 No account shall be spent at any time at a rate that under ordinary
- 7 circumstances, would exhaust the appropriation before the end
- 8 of the fiscal year. At least quarterly the Comptroller shall give
- 9 written notification of the spending rate of each line item to the
- 10 Secretary or his designee or designees, responsible for that line
- 11 item. If any account is spent at any time at the rate that would
- 12 exhaust the appropriation before the end of the fiscal year, the
- 13 Comptroller shall take appropriate action, which may include
- 14 suspending the use of the account, that reduces the spending rate
- 15 to prevent overspending. Except for the emergency expenditures,
- 16 the Governor shall not request and the Senate and House
- 17 Committee on Ways and Means shall not consider additional
- 18 funding for the fiscal year. "Emergency expenditures" means
- 19 expenditures that a competent administrator could not have
- 20 reasonably anticipated.

By Mr. Cullum a resolution was introduced and read, as follows:

**The Committee of Investigation**

Resolved, That the following be the members of the committee:

1. Charles D. Wright, Chairman
2. George W. ...
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