

By Mr. Nordberg of Reading, petition of Nils L. Nordberg relative to the eligibility of poor and indigent persons to receive relief and support. Social Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT CLARIFYING ELIGIBILITY FOR RECEIPT OF RELIEF AND SUPPORT BY POOR AND INDIGENT PERSONS.

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 117 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
2 adding after section 1B the following new section: —
3 *Section 1C.* Before granting benefits under any provision of
4 this or any other chapter of the General Laws or any special
5 law, the commissioner of the department, or his agent, shall
6 determine by requesting from each employer, or former em-
7 ployer during the twelve months next preceding the date of
8 application, of the applicant or the veteran upon whose service
9 the application is based suitable information as to: (a) number
10 of hours employed and gross earnings each week during the
11 twelve months next preceding the date of application: (b)
12 whether additional hours of employment were available and
13 offered but refused; (c) whether deductions for payroll savings
14 plans, credit unions, or other such deductions were made be-
15 fore determining net pay; (d) whether exemptions less than
16 those actually entitled were declared which resulted in in-
17 creased tax withholdings; (e) whether any payment has been
18 made, is currently being made, or is subject to be made under
19 any wage or salary continuation, replacement or supplementa-
20 tion plan; and such other information as the commissioner shall
21 deem necessary. The commissioner shall also, before granting
22 benefits and each ninety days thereafter while benefits are

23 being provided, request of the director of the Division of
24 Employment Security information as to any amounts paid as
25 salary on wages to the applicant or the veteran upon whose
26 service the application is based and the name and address of
27 any employer making such payments.