

HOUSE No. 5352

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

FIFTY-NINTH REPORT
OF THE
BUREAU OF WELFARE AUDITING
OF ITS ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD

OCTOBER 1, 1976 TO OCTOBER 31, 1976.

(Submitted under authority
of Section 30T (6) of Chapter 7
of the General Laws)

January 10, 1977.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

REPORT

ON THE

BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

1967

AND THE

REVENUE ESTIMATES

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE,
BUREAU OF WELFARE AUDITING,
1 ASHBURTON PLACE, ROOM 501, BOSTON 02108, November 29, 1976.

OCTOBER REPORT OF
THE BUREAU OF WELFARE AUDITING

To: His Excellency Michael S. Dukakis, Governor
Clerk of the Senate
Clerk of the House of Representatives

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to G.L., c. 7, s. 30T (6), the Bureau of Welfare Auditing, by its Director, submits this report of its activities for the period from October 1, 1976 through October 31, 1976.

During this month two hundred forty-seven (247) complaints were received by this Bureau alleging a wrongful receipt or claim for payment under assistance programs administered by the Department of Public Welfare.

The chart below indicates the category and source of the referral of these complaints.

October 1, 1976 — October 31, 1976

*CASE												
CATEGORY		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11	Tot.
**SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS	DPW	1	—	23	124	2	4	2	15	1	1	173
	CIT	6	—	23	27	—	2	3	10	3	—	74
	TOTAL	7	—	46	151	2	6	5	25	4	1	247

***CASE CATEGORIES**

- 1. Medical Vendor Investigations
- 2. State Employee Investigations
- 3. Undeclared Contributor of Income in the Home
- 4. Unreported Income
- 5. Receipt of Multiple Payments/Benefits
- 6. Check Investigations
- 7. Residency Requirements Are Not Met
- 8. Ineligible/Non-Existent Recipient
- 10. Food Stamp Investigations
- 11. Non-Medical Vendor Investigations

****SOURCE OF COMPLAINTS**

DPW: Complaints received from Department of Public Welfare

CIT: Complaints received from General Public and Otherwise

Six (6) cases indicating possible fraudulent receipt of or claim for payment from the Department of Public Welfare were reported in October by this Bureau to the Attorney General for fraud evaluation and for such action as he may deem appropriate. Those cases are described below:

<u>Number of Cases</u>	<u>Case Category</u>	<u>Region</u>
1	Ineligible/Non-Existent Recipient	Greater Boston
1	Ineligible/Non-Existent Recipient	Brockton
1	Vendor Investigation	New Bedford
1	Undeclared Contributor of Income in the Home	Springfield
2	Unreported Income	Worcester

Eight (8) additional criminal complaints were filed this month by the Bureau in the Commonwealth's district courts relative to welfare recipient violations.

Twenty-three (23) criminal cases of alleged welfare fraud investigated by this Bureau were prosecuted in October. Fifteen

defendants were found "guilty", with most of them given a suspended jail sentence and/or probation with a court order to fully repay the welfare funds obtained by fraud, and one defendant was found "not guilty". Four of those who were convicted were given jail terms to serve and all but one of them appealed their cases to a higher court. Three cases were "continued without a finding" and two complaints were heard by a clerk of court with restitution ordered in all but one case. The two remaining cases were dismissed upon the payment of full restitution. The total amount of money repaid or ordered to be repaid to the Commonwealth in these cases was Thirty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty and 54/100 (\$35,950.54) Dollars.

Included among the court dispositions described above was a case against the owner of a pharmacy in the western part of the state. The pharmacist was convicted of the larceny of \$2,990.00 in Medicaid funds. He was given a three to five-year jail sentence, all except ten weekends of which time was suspended. He was also given probation for three years and was ordered to make restitution of the stolen funds to the Commonwealth.

Also, during this month an investigation by this Bureau culminated in a Berkshire County grand jury returning seven indictments against a dentist participating in the Medicaid Program. The dentist is charged with perjury and larceny in connection with certain of his billings for dental services made to the Department of Public Welfare. Trial on the charges is expected early next year.

Respectfully submitted,

RAYMOND F. JOWDY

Director, Bureau of Welfare Auditing

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the war. It is followed by a detailed account of the operations of the army and the navy. The report then discusses the economic situation and the state of the public opinion. Finally, it concludes with some remarks on the future of the country.

The second part of the report contains a list of the names of the officers and soldiers who were killed during the war. This list is followed by a list of the names of the officers and soldiers who were wounded. The report then discusses the state of the public opinion and the progress of the war. Finally, it concludes with some remarks on the future of the country.



