

By Mrs. Parente of Milford, petition of the Massachusetts Organization of State Engineers and Scientists, Marie J. Parente, Michael W. Morrissey, Steven A. Tolman, John A. Businger and Emile J. Goguen relative to the audit, oversight powers and duties of the committee on Public Service of the General Court. Public Service.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE FORMAL AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE.

*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 3 shall hereby be amended by the addition, after  
2 Section 65, of the following:—

3 Section 66. Powers and Duties of the Joint Committee on  
4 Public Service. The Joint Committee on Public Service shall have  
5 formal audit and oversight duties and powers over the Public  
6 Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC), the  
7 Pension Reserves Investment Management Board (PRIM), the  
8 Deferred Compensation Oversight Board, and the Group  
9 Insurance Commission.

10 The committee shall employ a sufficient number of persons  
11 approved by the Senate and House Committees on Ways and  
12 Means, qualified by education, training, and expertise, who shall  
13 be known as auditors. The committee shall also appoint such  
14 assistants to the auditors and additional staff as are necessary to  
15 efficiently discharge the duties of the positions. The compensation  
16 of the auditors and their assistants shall be subject to the  
17 Committees on Rules of the two branches of the General Court  
18 costs of their compensation shall be assessed against the Public  
19 Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC), the  
20 Deferred Compensation Oversight Board, and the Group  
21 Insurance Commission in proportions determined by the Senate  
22 and House Committees on Ways and Means.

23 The auditors, their assistants and additional staff shall have  
24 access to and authority to examine, during regular business hours,  
25 any and all records, including, but not limited to books, reports,  
26 accounts, vouchers, bank accounts, and money or other property  
27 of the above-referenced bodies and it shall be the duty of any  
28 officer or employee of the Public Employee Retirement  
29 Administration Commission (PERAC), the Deferred Compensation  
30 Oversight Board, and the Group Insurance Commission having  
31 such records or property in his possession or under his control, to  
32 permit access to an examination thereof upon the request of said  
33 auditors or their authorized representatives. The auditors, their  
34 assistants and staff shall also have the authority to issue reports  
35 and take other actions deemed appropriate by the Joint Committee  
36 on Public Safety.