

HOUSE No. 1360

By Mr. Flaherty of Cambridge, petition of John M. Ferren, Charles F. Flaherty, Jr., other members of the House and another for legislation to permit applicants or recipients of welfare payments to be represented at hearings by persons of their own choice. Social Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Eight.

AN ACT TO PERMIT APPLICANTS OR RECIPIENTS OF WELFARE PAYMENTS TO BE REPRESENTED AT A HEARING BY ANY PERSON OF THEIR CHOICE.

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

1 Section 8 of chapter 118 of the General Laws, as amended by
2 chapter 248 of the acts of 1939, is hereby further amended by
3 inserting in line 6 after the words "appeal to the department"
4 the following new sentences:— An appellant may be repre-
5 sented at such hearing by any person authorized by the appellant
6 in writing. An appellant or his authorized representative shall
7 have access to the case record maintained by the welfare depart-
8 ment or board of public welfare at least one week before the
9 date set for such hearing, and shall be notified of the time and
10 place of the fair hearing at least ten days before the date set
11 for such hearing.

