

HOUSE No. 18

By Mr. Ayers of Quincy, petition of Bruce J. Ayers relative to providing for an investigation by the Inspector General of leasing practices of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT DIRECTING THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL TO CONDUCT
A STUDY OF LEASING PRACTICES UTILIZED BY THE MASSACHUSETTS
WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY.

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

1 The inspector general is hereby authorized and directed to
2 expend an amount not exceeding \$150,000 to study all Massachu-
3 setts water resources authority leasing agreements in which the
4 authority is either the lessor or lessee of real property. This study
5 shall include, but not be limited to, an analysis, appraisal, evalua-
6 tion and listing of all real property owned or under the control of
7 the authority and shall detail whether such property is generating
8 a positive or negative economic impact for ratepayers in the
9 authority's district. Said study shall document whether all such
10 real property leases have been authorized in accordance with all
11 applicable or generally accepted principles of advertising and pro-
12 curement. The inspector general shall include his recommenda-
13 tions for improving real property oversight at the authority and, if
14 indicated by his findings, shall provide draft legislation to
15 improve administration in this area to ensure the authority is
16 receiving the maximum feasible return and is applying the same
17 for the benefit of ratepayers. The inspector general shall complete
18 this study no later than October 15, 2007 and shall submit his
19 findings and recommendations to the house and senate commit-
20 tees on ways and means not later than December 15, 2007.