



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

PAUL HEROUX
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
2ND BRISTOL DISTRICT

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RE: S2176 An Act relative to larceny
DT: 25 May 2016

Dear Chairman Dempsey,

Thank you for considering *S2176, An Act relative to larceny* before your committee.

This bill was engrossed by the Senate in March and I would like it to proceed to the House floor and ultimately the Governor's desk so that it may become law.

This bill is a small part of reforming corrections. It would increase the threshold for felony larceny from \$250 to \$1500. This amount has not been updated since the late 1980s. Under this legislation, larceny of a good valued under \$1500 would be considered a misdemeanor. The bill also caps jail sentences and fines dependent upon the value of the good stolen. Additionally, this is a bill that will help keep many people from needlessly getting involved in our expensive criminal justice system. This especially becomes an issue of fairness and equity for people of color and in poverty or low incomes.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. I respectfully request that *S2176, An Act relative to larceny* be released favorably and expeditiously from your committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Heroux".

Paul Heroux