

As part of the member services offered by LPDAM, we are constantly watching legislation on Beacon Hill that can have an effect on Private Detectives and their work.

We also occasionally file legislation on behalf of the association and its members. Below is listed the three bills that have been filed on behalf of LPDAM

HB2105 - An Act relative to the dissemination of criminal record information to private detectives licensed by the Department of State Police

Sponsor: Rep. Cantwell, James (D)

Summary: Adds new section 32A to GL 147 to grant access to criminal offender record information to persons licensed by the state police to conduct criminal investigations for the Committee for Public Counsel Services.

Status: Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security (JPSF)

Complete History: 01/14/15 - H - Filed in the House

01/20/15 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
11/27/15 - Hearing Scheduled (12/2/15 1:00 pm - Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security A-1)

Update: We offered testimony in FAVOR of this bill and proffered an amendment that would include all licensed private detectives (not just those associated with CPCS).

HB-2164 - An Act relative to multi-year licensing

Sponsor: Rep. Naughton, Harold (D)

Summary: Amends GL 147:25, the statute governing licensing for private detectives, watchmen, guards, and patrol agencies, by extending the length of each license issued. Licenses will now be good for two years rather than one and will be renewed biennially.

Status: Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security (JPSF)

Complete History: 01/16/15 - H - Filed in the House

03/11/15 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
01/04/16 - Hearing Scheduled (1/7/16 11:00 am - Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security B-1)

Update: We testified at the public hearing in FAVOR of this bill and assured the committee that passage of this bill would be revenue-neutral (won't cost the state any more) and could be a money saver for the Certification Unit if licenses are renewed every 2 yrs rather than every year.

HB-2962 - An Act Relative to the access of computer terminals by private detectives licensed by the Department of State Police

Sponsor: Rep. Cantwell, James (D)

Summary: Amends G.L. 90:30A to grant access to the computer terminals under the control of the registrar of motor vehicles to the trial courts, persons licensed by the department of state police as private investigators to conduct criminal investigations for the committee for public counsel services or computer manufacturers or data processing consultants under contract with the commonwealth.

Status: Joint Committee on Transportation (JTR)

Complete 01/14/15 - H - Filed in the House

History: 03/11/15 - H - Referred to Joint Committee on Transportation

10/09/15 - Hearing Scheduled (10/20/15 10:00 am - Joint Committee on Transportation B-2)

Update: We offered testimony for this bill in FAVOR of it passage and added the same amendment that would include all PIs based upon the notion that private defense work is no less important than Public Counsel defense work.

In addition to following and/or filing legislation of importance to LPDAM members, we also strive to maintain a good working relationship with folks in the Executive Branch of Government as well. Some of the things we are trying to do legislatively can potentially be accomplished administratively.

As with all things LPDAM, we welcome your input as to what is important and what is not.