



MARTHA COAKLEY  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
ONE ASHBURTON PLACE  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

(617) 727-2200  
(617) 727-4765 TTY  
[www.mass.gov/ago](http://www.mass.gov/ago)

**STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT FOR  
*AN ACT TO COMBAT ECONOMIC CRIME***

Senator Steven Baddour (D-Methuen)

“This bill is a major step forward in cracking down on money laundering, human trafficking and many other serious crimes. I am proud to join Attorney General Coakley, and several of my colleagues in the Senate and the House in supporting this bill.”

Senator Stephen M. Brewer (D-Barre)

“Tough economic times call for strengthening our criminal statutes so that we stamp out illegal activity. I signed onto this legislation that helps to effectively target organized crime, provides a tool for law enforcement, and updates the wire interception statutes. I look forward to working with my colleagues to make this bill become law.”

Senator Mark Montigny (D-New Bedford)

“This legislation, presented by Attorney General Coakley, complements a bill I have filed that will criminalize human trafficking. The most despicable criminals are usually involved in networks that exploit vulnerable members of our society. Enacting tough legislation will send a clear message that these illegal enterprises are not welcomed or tolerated in Massachusetts.”

Senator James Timilty (D-Walpole)

“I am delighted to join with the Attorney General in her effort to stem the rising tide of financial crime. In these trying economic times, it is imperative that we take every step to ensure the public is protected from these criminal enterprises.”

Representative James Vallee, House Majority Leader (D-Franklin)

“Financial crimes, such as money laundering, seem to steadily increase during times of economic hardship or uncertainty. The dire economic backdrop against which this bill is presented makes its passage crucial. I look forward to working with Attorney General Coakley and my colleagues in the Legislature on this bill’s timely passage.”

Representative Garrett Bradley (D-Hingham)

“With this bill, Attorney General Martha Coakley is leading the charge against those engaged in sophisticated criminal activity in the Commonwealth. I support this initiative and look forward to working with the Attorney General as this moves through the legislature.”

Representative Katherine Clark (D-Melrose)

“I am proud to be a lead sponsor of Attorney General Coakley’s legislation that strengthens protections for the Commonwealth from crime. As we examine the issue of expanded gaming in the state, now is the time to give law enforcement the tools they need to fight enterprise crime.”

Representative Barry Finegold (D-Andover)

“This legislation will protect the people of the Commonwealth by reinvigorating the fight against economic crimes such as organized crime, drug crimes and gang-related crimes. In Lawrence, gangs and organized crime are prevalent. This legislation will give law enforcement the tools it needs to combat these crimes, making Lawrence and other communities safer places to live.”

State Representative John Keenan (D-Salem)

“Economic downturns provide increased opportunities for financial crimes,” said Representative John Keenan “I am pleased to support this legislation that will provide much needed additional protections to our most vulnerable populations.”

Representative Peter J. Koutoujian (D-Waltham)

“As a former Assistant District Attorney, I remember cases in which I did not have the necessary tools to prosecute effectively. This law will bring us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and allow prosecutors to do their job.”

State Representative Sarah Peake (D-Provincetown)

"I commend Attorney General Martha Coakley for bringing forward this bill. This bill will update our criminal statutes to insure that the law is keeping pace with the rapid changes and advancements in technology and communication so that we can catch and punish those who seek to use these advancements for criminal purposes. Once again, Attorney General Coakley is staying ahead of the curve and working to make Massachusetts a safer place for all of us."

Essex Attorney General Jonathan Blodgett

“This legislation will be a major tool in helping state prosecutors develop effective investigations, and ultimately, successful prosecutions, on white collar and organized crime.”

Berkshire District Attorney David Capeless

“For today’s criminals, two of the weapons of choice are the computer and the cell phone, and we in law enforcement need effective means to disarm them. This package goes a long way towards doing just that.”

Suffolk District Attorney Daniel Conley

"Acting alone or in concert, criminals aren't waiting for Massachusetts laws to catch up with their enterprises. They're exploiting the lag between technology and accountability. Any step that will close that gap is one we're proud to support."

Middlesex District Attorney Gerard Leone

“I strongly support this legislation that would significantly enhance our ability to investigate and prosecute cases of public corruption and organized crime. As criminal organizations continue to change the way that they do business, our laws and investigative methods must continue to change with them. These common-sense measures will be invaluable tools in our efforts to combat corruption and I applaud Attorney General Coakley for her efforts in this area.”

Bristol District Attorney Samuel Sutter

“I strongly endorse all components of this legislation. It will give prosecutors tools that we need, and other states have, to combat criminal enterprises that are getting increasingly sophisticated.”

Wellesley Police Chief Terrence Cunningham, President of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association (MCOPA)

“The legislation filed today by Attorney General Coakley will modernize the Commonwealth's capacity to identify and prosecute complex criminal enterprises. It brings Massachusetts into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by updating our decades-old wiretap law and by establishing mechanisms for addressing money laundering and sophisticated criminal enterprises. The Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association stands firmly in support of this initiative.”