

HOUSE No. 01967

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael J. Moran

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to establish safe staffing levels at skilled nursing facilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Michael J. Moran</i>	<i>18th Suffolk</i>
<i>Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>
<i>Martin J. Walsh</i>	<i>13th Suffolk</i>
<i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Carlos Henriquez</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>Stephen Stat Smith</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 01967

By Mr. Moran of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1967) of Smith and others for legislation to establish safe staffing levels at skilled nursing facilities Joint Committee on Elder Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act to establish safe staffing levels at skilled nursing facilities.

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 1. The Department of Public Health shall establish minimum staffing requirements at
2 Skilled Nursing Care Facilities and for all level I, II and III long-term care facilities (as defined
3 at 105 CMR 150.001). Working with 1199SEIU and other appropriate stakeholders, the
4 Department shall develop amendments to the existing Nursing Services regulations (105 CMR
5 150.007) that ensure these facilities employ an adequate number of nurses, certified nurse
6 assistants, and other staff to both meet all patient needs and ensure that sufficient staff is working
7 at any given time to safely meet those needs. Said amended regulations shall include specific
8 standards and direct-care staff-to-patient ratios to ensure consistent delivery of quality care in a
9 safe and sanitary facility. The Department shall issue public recommendations on these issues
10 no later than six months following final passage of this Act.