

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1967**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Sean Garballey*

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 standardize the regulation of skilled nursing facilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Carlo Basile</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carlos Henriquez</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>
<i>Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Christine E. Canavan</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>

<i>Thomas P. Conroy</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jay R. Kaufman</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>
<i>Barry R. Finegold</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Robert F. Fennell</i>	<i>10th Essex</i>
<i>Theodore C. Speliotis</i>	<i>13th Essex</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1967**

By Mr. Garballey of Arlington, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1967) of Sean Garballey and others that the Department of Public Health establish a formal public hearing process prior to certain licensing and ownership of nursing home facilities decisions. Public Health.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**

An Act to standardize the regulation of 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 amend the Licensure Procedure and
- 2 Suitability Requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities in Massachusetts regulations (105 CMR
- 3 153). Such amendment shall establish a formal and open public hearing process that would
- 4 precede approval of and allow for public input on any application for a license, notice of intent
- 5 for transfer of ownership or notice of intent to sell or close any skilled nursing facility whether
- 6 for-profit or non-profit.
- 7
- 8 SECTION 2: The Department of Public Health, the Center for Health Information & Analysis,
- 9 the Office of Elder Affairs, the Office of Medicaid and the Office of the Attorney General shall
- 10 work together with all interested stakeholders to review and develop policy recommendations for
- 11 improvements to the licensing of long term care facilities in the Commonwealth (105 CMR 150;
- 12 105 CMR 153), regulations concerning standard payments and cost reporting by nursing
- 13 facilities (114.2 CMR 600) and the requirements for the provision of nursing-facility services
- 14 under MassHealth (130 CMR 456). Such recommendations shall include proposed amendments
- 15 to these regulations to:
- 16 a) Provide more transparent, timely and complete public access to information concerning
- 17 skilled nursing facility licensing, reimbursement and quality care standards; and
- 18 b) Improve the regulation and public reporting of information concerning transfers of
- 19 licenses for, new ownership of, and the closure of skilled nursing facility licenses; and
- 20 c) Otherwise enhance the regulation of skilled nursing facilities in the Commonwealth.
- 21