

SENATE No. 11

To accompany the petition of Charles V. Hogan that provision be made for medical and hospital services and medicines for total and permanent disability cases under the workmen's compensation law. Labor and Industries.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Three.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL SERVICES AND MEDICINES FOR TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY CASES UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAW.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter one hundred and fifty-two of the General
2 Laws, section thirty, is hereby amended by adding
3 after the word "period" in the third line thereof, the
4 following words: — and in total and permanent disa-
5 bility cases during such continuance, — so that the
6 same will read as follows: — *Section 30.* During the
7 first two weeks after the injury, and, in unusual cases
8 or cases requiring specialized or surgical treatment,
9 in the discretion of the department, for a longer
10 period and in total and permanent disability cases
11 during such continuance, the insurer shall furnish
12 adequate and reasonable medical and hospital serv-

13 ices, and medicines if needed, together with the ex-
14 penses necessarily incidental to such services. The
15 employee may select a physician other than the one
16 provided by the insurer; and in case he shall be
17 treated by a physician of his own selection, the rea-
18 sonable cost of the physician's services shall be paid
19 by the insurer, subject to the approval of the depart-
20 ment. Such approval shall be granted only if the
21 department finds that such services were necessary
22 and the charges therefor were reasonable. In any
23 case where the department is of opinion that the fit-
24 ting of the employee with an artificial eye or limb,
25 or other mechanical appliance, will promote his res-
26 toration to or continue him in industry, it may order
27 that he be provided with such an artificial eye, limb
28 or appliance, at the expense of the insurer.