

# HOUSE . . . . No. 1590

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By Mr. Beades of Boston, petition of the Massachusetts Federation of Nursing Homes, Inc., and others for legislation to establish minimum rates of old age assistance for patients in nursing and convalescent homes. Pensions and Old Age Assistance.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A MINIMUM RATE TO RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC AID WHO ARE PATIENTS IN NURSING AND CONVALESCENT HOMES.

*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 first paragraph of section 1 of  
2 chapter 118A of the General Laws is hereby amended  
3 by changing the fifth sentence, as appearing in chap-  
4 ter 799 of the acts of 1950, and inserting in place  
5 thereof the following sentence:— Such assistance  
6 shall be on the basis of need, and the amount thereof  
7 shall be determined in accordance with budgetary  
8 standards by the local board of public welfare, except  
9 that recipients of such assistance who are patients in  
10 or domiciled in a nursing or convalescent home, as de-  
11 fined in section seventy-one of chapter one hundred  
12 and eleven, shall receive a minimum assistance of five  
13 dollars per diem.

1 SECTION 2. The second paragraph of said section 1  
2 of said chapter 118A is hereby amended by striking  
3 out the last sentence, as appearing in section 2 of chap-  
4 ter 801 of the acts of 1951, and inserting in place  
5 thereof the following sentence:—Persons receiving  
6 assistance under this chapter while patients in nursing  
7 homes shall have their budgetary requirements based  
8 upon the cost of living index prepared by the division  
9 on the necessities of life, subject, however, to the  
10 minimum rate of five dollars per diem. The owner or  
11 director of a nursing home shall have the right to ap-  
12 peal to the commissioner of public welfare for an in-  
13 crease in the amount of assistance allowed to a per-  
14 son resident in such a nursing home, who is in need of  
15 extraordinary care, if such person, upon the written  
16 advice of a licensed registered physician, for any rea-  
17 son is incapable of making such an appeal in his own  
18 behalf.