

By Mr. Sennott of Cambridge (by request), petition of Edna Lawrence Spencer relative to the furnishing of medical care to recipients of old age assistance. Pensions and Old Age Assistance.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-One.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE FURNISHING OF MEDICAL CARE TO RECIPIENTS OF OLD AGE ASSISTANCE.

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. Section 1 of chapter 118A of the General Laws
2 is hereby amended by striking out the paragraph thereof inserted
3 by chapter 441 of the acts of 1945, and inserting in place thereof
4 the following new paragraph:—

5 Such assistance shall also provide for adequate medical care
6 for every recipient of assistance under this chapter, including
7 therein provision for the service of a physician of his choice as
8 often as such physician deems necessary, and provision for such
9 consultations, X-ray or laboratory work as such physician may
10 require. The physician on completion of his examination on
11 the first visit for each patient shall submit a report of his diag-
12 nosis, treatment and prognosis, together with his bill. Any
13 physician proved to be exploiting the illness of a recipient for
14 personal gain shall not be paid for services rendered to a recipient.
15 No rule or regulation abridging or conflicting with the provisions
16 hereof shall be adopted by the welfare board of the common-
17 wealth or any political subdivision thereof.

1 SECTION 2. Copies of this act shall be kept available to the
2 public by the welfare board of the state and each city and town.

1 SECTION 3. Fees paid to physicians shall conform to pre-
2 vailing rates charged in the community.

