

By Mr. Lolas of Monson, petition of Alexander Lolas making certain changes in the laws relating to the Department of Mental Health. Social Welfare.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT MAKING CORRECTIVE CHANGES IN THE LAWS RELATIVE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH.

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 5 of Chapter 123 of the General Laws, as inserted by
2 Section 4 of Chapter 888 of the Acts of 1970, is hereby amended
3 by inserting, after the word "require" in line 2, the words: – or
4 authorize.

5 Section 12 (b) of Chapter 123 of the General Laws, as inserted
6 by Section 4 of Chapter 888 of the Acts of 1970, is hereby
7 amended by inserting after the word "examinations" in line 2,
8 the words: – and the applying qualified physician has conducted
9 such an examination.

10 Section 25 of Chapter 123 of the General Laws, as inserted by
11 Section 4 of Chapter 888 of the Acts of 1970, is hereby amended
12 by inserting, after the word "licenses" in line 3, the words: – or
13 to vote in local, state, or federal elections.

14 Section 26 of Chapter 123 of the General Laws, as inserted by
15 Section 4 of Chapter 888 of the Acts of 1970, is hereby repealed
and the following section inserted in place thereof: –

17 *Section 26.* In addition to the periodic review under section
18 four of this chapter, whenever the superintendent has reason to
19 believe that a person who has been under the care of the depart-
20 ment is an inpatient or resident for more than six months, who is
21 not under guardianship or conservatorship, is in need of a guard-
22 ian or conservator, he shall promptly notify said person's nearest

23 living relative and recommend that the necessary steps be taken
24 for the appointment of a guardian or conservator.

25 Section 32 of Chapter 123 of the General Laws, as inserted by
26 Section 4 of Chapter 888 of the Acts of 1970, is hereby amended
27 by striking out in line 8 the word "one" and inserting in place
28 thereof the word: – two.