

[Similar Matter Filed During Past Session
See Senate No. 681 of 1975]

SENATE

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No. 474

By Mr. Atkins, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 474 of Chester G. Atkins for legislation to reduce the financial impact of prolonged hospitalization of mentally retarded and mentally ill patients on their families. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO REDUCE THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF PROLONGED HOSPITALIZATION OF MENTALLY RETARDED AND MENTALLY ILL PATIENTS ON THEIR FAMILIES.

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 96 of Chapter 123 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by adding at the end of the first paragraph
3 thereof the following sentences:— Total liability of a patient
4 and his family for any period of full-time residency in any
5 facility of the Department of Mental Health in excess of thirty
6 months shall not exceed twenty-five per cent of such price for
7 support, and shall cease altogether for any period of hospitali-
8 zation or full-time residency in any facility of the Department
9 of Mental Health in excess of five years.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

PRIVATE

NO. 174

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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