SENATE . . . . . No. 811

By Mr. McKenna, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 811) of Denis L. McKenna and Samuel Rotondi for legislation to provide for continuity of care for public assistance recipients. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-three.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR CONTINUITY OF CARE FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS.

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

Section Six of chapter 118E of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting the following sentence in paragraph two: —

The department shall not make any determination or take any action that affects the continuing care or relocation of any public assistance recipient admitted to any hospital licensed by the department of public health as a chronic disease hospital and any hospital maintained by the commonwealth providing such care, unless services medically required by the recipient are, in fact, usually provided to public assistance recipients admitted to non-hospital facilities, within a twenty-five mile radius of the domicile of any individual recipient or his family. Determination as to the medical necessity of patient care, pursuant to this section, shall only be made by the hospital's utilization review committee, and may only be subject to review by such peer review and professional standards review organizations as are established from time to time under the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. §§1395, *et seq.*