

**SENATE . . . . . No. 2056**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

---

SENATE, MAY 3, 1984.

The committee on Health Care, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 569) of George Bachrach, Richard A. Kraus, Stephen W. Doran, Thomas K. Lynch and other members of the General Court for legislation to authorize the Department of Public Health to license hospice home care programs, reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 2056).

For the Committee

**EDWARD L. BURKE**

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

### AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO LICENSE HOSPICE PROGRAMS.

*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. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by adding after section fifty seven C the following  
3 new section:

4 57D. The Department shall, after a public hearing, pro-  
5 mulgate rules and regulations for the licensing and conduct  
6 of hospice programs. For the purpose of this section, hospice  
7 shall mean a coordinated program of care and services for  
8 those who are determined to be terminally ill with a limited  
9 life expectancy. These services are to be provided by or ar-  
10 ranged to be provided through an interdisciplinary team in a  
11 home setting, on an out-patient basis, and on a back-up in-  
12 patient basis (not to exclude those patients requiring only in-  
13 patient care). Such services shall include but not be limited  
14 to physician's services, nursing care provided by or under the  
15 supervision of a registered professional nurse, social services,  
16 volunteer services, and counseling services provided by pro-  
17 fessional or volunteer staff under professional supervision. The  
18 licensee, if contracting for in-patient backup services, must  
19 have a written contract providing for these services. The  
20 Department shall issue for a term of two years and renew for  
21 a like term a license to maintain a hospice program to any  
22 organization which it deems responsible and suitable to  
23 establish and maintain such a program. Said licensees shall  
24 be subject to suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew for  
25 cause, subject to the provision of this section.

26 The department shall determine the fee and renewal of said  
27 license.

1 SECTION 2. The first paragraph of section 6 of chapter 118e  
2 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the follow-  
3 ing sentence:

4 The department shall provide financial assistance for the  
5 services of a hospice program which is licensed in accordance  
6 with section fifty-seven D of chapter one hundred and eleven  
7 of the General Laws.

4 The department shall provide financial assistance for the  
 5 activities of a higher program which is in need of assistance  
 6 with section fifty-seven of chapter one hundred and one  
 7 of the General Laws.

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22