

HOUSE No. 5441

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 29, 1971.

The committee on Social Welfare, to whom were referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 62) of Samuel Harmon for legislation to provide comprehensive multi-purpose services for the elderly in the Commonwealth; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 64) of Samuel Harmon for legislation to authorize the Department of Community Affairs to provide financial assistance to local councils on aging; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 66) of Samuel Harmon for legislation to establish multi-service centers for the elderly; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 191) of Samuel Harmon for legislation to require public housing projects for the elderly to contain an infirmary for medical care and treatment of the residents; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2306) of David S. Liederman and Maurice E. Frye, Jr., that provision be made for dining and social services for elderly and handicapped persons; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2308) of Jon Rotenberg that cities and towns be reimbursed by the Commonwealth for one-half the cost of constructing and maintaining centers for elderly persons; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2515) of David S. Liederman for establishing a program of legal research and services for the elderly within the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, report recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 5441) ought to pass.

For the committee,

JOHN J. DESMOND.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT PROVIDING SOCIAL SERVICES FOR ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

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 19 of the General Laws,
2 as amended by section 1 of chapter 888 of the acts of 1970, is
3 hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the follow-
4 ing: —

5 The department shall plan, develop and supervise the admin-
6 istration of programs to provide social services for elderly and
7 handicapped persons living in the community. As used herein,
8 the term “social services” shall include but not be limited to
9 meals, nutritional services, legal services, housekeeping services,
10 group activity programs and individual counselling services. To
11 provide for such social services, the department may contract
12 with private or state or municipal agencies, established to
13 provide such services and who will provide for all of said social
14 services for either the elderly or the handicapped.

1 SECTION 2. The fourth paragraph of section 50 of chapter
2 704 of the acts of 1969, as amended by section 5 of chapter
3 862 of the acts of 1970, is hereby further amended by in-
4 serting after the words “rest homes and related facilities”, the
5 following: — the functions of the department of mental health
6 as they relate to the provision of social services for the elderly
7 and handicapped,”

1 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any contrary provisions of
2 law, all sums appropriated to the department of mental health
3 for the development of social services for elderly and handi-
4 capped persons shall be in addition to funds available to the

5 department of public welfare for the support of welfare recip-
6 ients, funds available under chapter 740 of the acts of 1970 for
7 the construction of central common rooms and central cooking
8 facilities in public housing projects of elderly persons for low
9 income and funds available under chapter 753 of the acts of
10 1970 for the provision of hot lunch programs for the elderly.

1 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

The following information is being provided for the information of the Board of Directors of the Corporation. This information is being provided for the information of the Board of Directors of the Corporation. This information is being provided for the information of the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

SECTION 5 This report is being provided for the information of the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

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