

---

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

---

SENATE, January 27, 1972.

The committee on Federal Financial Assistance, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by resolutions, Senate, No. 79) of Samuel Harmon for the adoption of resolutions by the General Court memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation providing that the federal old age assistance program be administered by the federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare through the Social Security system; the petition (accompanied by resolutions, Senate, No. 80, of Samuel Harmon for the adoption of resolutions by the General Court memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation removing the restriction of the amount of income a person may earn while receiving Social Security benefits; the petition (accompanied by resolutions, Senate, No. 84) of Samuel Harmon for the adoption of resolutions by the General Court memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation increasing the amounts of minimum monthly payments under the Social Security Act; the petition (accompanied by resolutions, Senate, No. 85) of Samuel Harmon for the adoption of resolutions by the General Court memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation providing that further increases in Social Security benefits shall not be used as the basis for increased rentals by public housing authorities; the petition (accompanied by resolutions, Senate, No. 86) of Samuel Harmon for the adoption of resolutions by the General Court memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation providing for an increase in Social Security benefits; the petition (accompanied by resolutions, Senate, No. 87) of Samuel Harmon for the adoption of resolutions by the General Court memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation whereby Social Security benefits shall be computed on the basis of the ten highest years of an applicant's earnings; the petition (accompanied by resolutions, Senate, No. 89) of Samuel

Harmon for the adoption of resolutions by the General Court memorializing the Congress of the United States to increase retirement allowances under the Social Security Act to certain widows; the petition (accompanied by resolutions, Senate, No. 91) of Samuel Harmon for the adoption of resolutions by the General Court memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to include a cost of living index formula in Social Security benefit payments; and the petition (accompanied by resolutions, Senate, No. 402) of Samuel Harmon for the adoption of resolutions by the General Court memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation increasing certain Social Security benefits and other related matters, reports the accompanying resolutions (Senate, No. 1147).

For the committee,

GEORGE G. MENDONCA.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-Two.

RESOLUTIONS MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
TO ENACT LEGISLATION INCREASING CERTAIN SOCIAL SECURITY  
BENEFITS AND RELATED MATTERS.

*Resolved*, That the General Court of Massachusetts respectfully urges the Congress of the United States to enact legislation providing that the federal old age assistance program be administered by the federal department of health, education and welfare through the social security system; removing the restrictions on the amount of income a person may earn while receiving social security benefits; increasing the minimum monthly payments under the Social Security Act to one hundred and fifty dollars per month per person and two hundred and fifty dollars per month per married couple; providing for an increase in social security benefits of twenty per cent in the year nineteen hundred and seventy-two and ten per cent in the year nineteen hundred and seventy-three; providing that further increases in social security benefits shall not be used by public housing authorities as the basis for increased rentals; providing that social security benefits shall be computed on the basis of the ten highest years of an applicant's earnings; increasing the amount of benefits payable under Social Security Act to widows of retired workers to an amount equal to one hundred per cent of the benefits payable to the worker at the time of his death; providing that there be a cost of living index formula included in the method of computing payments under the social security law; providing for Medicare to include at least one physical examination every year and medicines taken at home; providing that the interest of the social security trust fund shall be used to pay for the cost of the operation of the administration on aging and to pay for the cost of drugs for persons on social security; providing that all Medicare costs be frozen at the current rate to persons on Medicare; providing for the use of the federal general funds to increase social security benefits; providing free and adequate transportation for all persons over sixty-five years of age; providing

for the lifting of travel restrictions for the elderly by requiring half fares on airlines, buses, and trains during rush hours on a "seat availability basis"; providing for an assistant secretary of housing for the elderly within the department of Housing and Urban Development to administer, plan and coordinate housing programs for the elderly; providing for the reimbursement of cities and towns for amounts paid for the real estate tax abatement for persons over seventy years of age; providing for an increase in funeral benefits from two hundred and fifty dollars to seven hundred and fifty dollars; providing for the lifetime reserve clause for which inpatient hospital benefits may be paid under Medicare to be increased from sixty days to one hundred and twenty days; providing for a cabinet office for the department of elderly affairs; providing for the use of the Office of Economic Opportunity health centers by the elderly; providing for placement of referral services for cured state hospital and mental health former patients; providing for the establishment of standards for long term care facilities; encouraging colleges and universities as part of intern training to also train in nursing homes; providing that the federal government take over the functions and costs of old age assistance, disability programs and aid to the blind; increasing the federal funding of day care centers for young and old; increasing the financial allotments for administration of programs for the aging; providing that Medicare Part B shall be free to all persons on Medicare; providing that the administration on aging shall be taken out of the department of Health, Education and Welfare and be made an independent agency; and providing for a guaranteed annual income for a married couple over age sixty-five in the amount of four thousand one hundred and sixty dollars; now therefore be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of these resolutions be transmitted forthwith by the state secretary to the President of the United States, the presiding officer of each branch of the Congress, and to the members thereof from the commonwealth.