
By Mr. Backman, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 595) of Jack H. Backman, other members of the General Court and another for legislation relative to the protection of certain elderly persons. Health Care.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF CERTAIN ELDERLY 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 Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by in-
2 serting after section 72L the following section: —
3 *Section 72M.* Any individuals or representatives of com-
4 munity groups who seek to provide legal assistance or advo-
5 cacy services without charge to any or all residents of a
6 facility shall be admitted, on request, to any and all long term
7 care facilities and shall have free access to all residents, ex-
8 cept that any resident shall have the right to refuse access
9 to his or her living space. Such access shall include the rights
10 to (a) visit privately with a resident with the consent of said
11 resident, and (b) with the written consent of the resident,
12 inspect the personal and medical records of said resident. For
13 the purposes of this section, “facility” is defined as any facil-
14 ity required to be licensed under section seventy-one, and
15 “resident” is defined as any person who is receiving treat-
16 ment or care in a facility as defined herein.

