

SENATE No. 698

By Mr. Norton, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 698) of Thomas C. Norton for legislation to improve the quality of home care program services for the elderly. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF HOME CARE PROGRAM SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY.

- 1 *Whereas*, Excessive Case Manager caseloads and high Case
2 Manager turnover adversely affect the quality and cost-effective-
3 ness of Elder Home Care Program services; and
4 *Whereas*, High Case Manager turnover is primarily a response to
5 poor starting salaries, a generally inadequate salary structure, and
6 frustrations relating to case sizes.

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 4 of Chapter 19A of the General Laws, as
2 most recently amended by Chapter 393 of the Acts and Resolves of
3 1979, is hereby further amended, by inserting at the end of clause (p)
4 the following new clause (q):
5 q. to ensure that the permanent caseloads of individual Case
6 Managers shall not exceed 55 cases; and to further ensure that Case
7 Managers and Supervisors employed by Home Care Corporations
8 are paid at a wage and benefit rate which is similar to the wage and
9 benefit rates of comparable State employees.

- 1 SECTION 2. This Act shall become effective July 1, 1986.

