

# SENATE . . . . . No. 1997

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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SENATE, JUNE 11, 1986.

The Senate committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by Bill, Senate, No. 133) of Robert D. Wetmore and John P. Burke for legislation to regulate contracts between health spas and their customers, report the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 1997).

For the committee,

ROBERT D. WETMORE.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT REVISING THE LAW REGULATING CONTRACTS BETWEEN HEALTH SPAS AND THEIR CUSTOMERS.

*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 79 of chapter 93 of the General Laws,  
2 as appearing in the 1984 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
3 striking the second sentence and inserting in place thereof the  
4 following sentence: —

5 The principal sum of the bond shall be either twenty-five  
6 thousand dollars, for each health club location or facility that sells  
7 contracts for terms not greater than twenty-four months, or one  
8 hundred thousand dollars for each health club location or facility  
9 that sells contracts for terms greater than twenty-four months but  
10 not greater than thirty-six months, and evidence of such bond  
11 shall be filed with the secretary of state within thirty days of its  
12 procurement.

1 SECTION 2. Section 80 of chapter 93 of the General Laws,  
2 as appearing in the 1984 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
3 striking out the first two paragraphs and inserting in place thereof  
4 the following paragraphs: —

5 No contract for health club services shall be for a term measured  
6 by the life of the buyer. No contract for health club services shall  
7 be for a term longer than thirty-six months, except that upon  
8 expiration of the contract, the seller may offer to the buyer the  
9 right to renew his contract for a similar, shorter or longer period  
10 not to exceed thirty-six months.

11 No contract for health club services shall require payments or  
12 financing by the buyer over a period that extends more than one  
13 month beyond the expiration of the contract. The installment  
14 payments shall be in substantially equal amounts exclusive of the  
15 down payment and shall be required to be made at substantially  
16 equal intervals, not more frequently than one payment per month.