

By Mr. Lemanski of Chicopee, petition of Kenneth M. Lemanski for legislation to provide medical benefits to certain members of the Polish and Czechoslovakian armed forces in the Soldiers' Homes in Chelsea and Holyoke. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

AN ACT PROVIDING MEDICAL BENEFITS TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE POLISH AND CZECHOSLOVAKIAN ARMED FORCES.

*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 115A of the General Laws is hereby amended by strik-  
2 ing out section 4, as most recently amended by section 15 of chap-  
3 ter 260 of the acts of 1974, and inserting in place thereof the  
4 following section: —

5 Any person who served in the military service of Poland or  
6 Czechoslovakia shall be entitled to out-patient treatment at,  
7 admission to, and hospitalization in the Soldiers' Home in Massa-  
8 chusetts and the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke provided that they  
9 served at any time during World War I or World War II in armed  
10 conflict against an enemy of the United States or served during  
11 the same period in or with the armed forces of France or Great  
12 Britain, and have been citizens of the United States for ten years  
13 and are not entitled to payment for equivalent care and services  
14 under a program established by Poland or Czechoslovakia for  
15 persons who served in their armed forces in World War I or World  
16 War II. Such care or services may be furnished those individuals  
17 to the same extent as if they had served in the United States Armed  
18 Forces. Qualifying service may be established through an  
19 authenticated certification from the French Ministry of Defense  
20 or the British War Office, which clearly indicates such military  
21 service, or through satisfactory evidence pursuant to guidelines  
22 prescribed by the chief medical director, or having served in the

23 Czechoslovakian or Polish armed forces or in or with the armed  
24 forces of France or Great Britain while in armed conflict against  
25 any enemy of the United States during World War I or World  
26 War II. Such person shall also produce information in conformity  
27 with the rules and regulations of said homes, that he has been  
28 honorably discharged from said service, and is a citizen of the  
29 commonwealth and has a legal residence in a city or town therein,  
30 or if not such a citizen is a citizen of the United States and has  
31 such a residence therein; but no such persons shall be treated as  
32 an out-patient at, admitted to, or hospitalized in, said homes in  
33 the treatment, admission or hospitalization of any person quali-  
34 fied under the provisions of section one would thereby be  
35 postponed or denied.