

By Mr. Dempsey of Haverhill, petition of Brian S. Dempsey for legislation to further regulate rate increases for Medicare supplemental insurance coverage. Insurance.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Five.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING RATE INCREASES FOR MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE COVERAGE.

1 *Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to
2 defeat its purpose, which is to immediately regulate rate increases
3 for medicare supplemental insurance coverage, therefore it is
4 hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate
5 preservation of the public convenience.

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. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or
2 special law to the contrary, no provider of supplemental coverage
3 to medicare shall increase its rates or premium charges prior to
4 April fifteenth, nineteen hundred and ninety-five. The provisions
5 of this section shall apply to any increase in rates or premium
6 charges proposed on or before the effective date of this act which
7 has not taken effect as of the effective date of this act and to any
8 increase in rates or premium charges proposed on or after the
9 effective date of this act.

1 SECTION 2. There is hereby established a special commission
2 to consist of three members of the senate, five members of the
3 house of representatives and three persons to be appointed by the
4 governor to make an investigation and study of proposed
5 increases in rate or premium charges by providers of medicare
6 supplemental insurance coverage. Said commission shall study the
7 proposed rates and shall investigate methods to improve the

8 affordability and availability of such medicare supplemental insur-
9 ance to residents of the commonwealth. The commission shall
10 also investigate the need and feasibility of a program to subsidize
11 the purchase of such insurance by low income elderly residents.

12 Said commission shall report to the general court the results of
13 its investigation and study, if any, together with drafts of legisla-
14 tion necessary to carry such recommendations into effect by filing
15 the same with the clerk of the house of representatives on or
16 before April fifteenth, nineteen hundred and ninety-five.