

# SENATE . . . . . No. 1182

By Mr. Keating, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1182) of William R. Keating, Louis L. Kafka and William C. Galvin for legislation to require the installation of sprinkler systems in certain buildings occupied by elderly persons. Public Safety.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

### AN ACT REQUIRING THE INSTALLATION OF SPRINKLER SYSTEMS IN CERTAIN BUILDINGS OCCUPIED BY 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 SECTION 1. Section twenty-six B of chapter one hundred  
2 forty-eight of the General Laws, as amended by section two of  
3 chapter six hundred seventy-six of the acts of nineteen hundred  
4 seventy-five, is hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph  
5 and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph: —

6 Every building or structure not exceeding seventy feet in height  
7 above the mean grade erected or substantially altered to be occu-  
8 pied for residential purposes shall be protected with an approved  
9 automatic fire warning system in accordance with the provisions  
10 of the state building code and such system shall include the fea-  
11 tures of automatic smoke detection in conjunction with the  
12 approved fire detection devices; and, provided further, that every  
13 such building or structure erected or substantially altered to be  
14 used primarily for the housing of elderly persons shall be pro-  
15 tected with an adequate system for automatic sprinklers installed  
16 throughout the building or structure in accordance with the provi-  
17 sions of the state building code. As used in this section, the words  
18 “building or structure erected or substantially altered to be used  
19 primarily for the housing of elderly persons” shall be defined as a  
20 building or structure which has ten or more residential units occu-  
21 pied by persons over 65 and where those units comprise greater  
22 than 50 percent of the residential units in such building or  
23 structure.

1 SECTION 2. The provisions of this act shall apply to all build-  
2 ings erected or substantially altered after the effective date of this  
3 act.