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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 14, 1977.

The committee on Government Regulations, to whom were referred so much of the recommendations of the Consumers' Council (House, No. 42) as relates to increasing public representation of membership and strengthening the powers of the boards of registration (accompanied by bill, House, No. 44); the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 437) of John A. Businger that gas, electric or telephone companies be required to grant a reduced rate of at least fifty per cent to elderly persons; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1792) of Belden G. Bly, Jr., that telephone companies be required to offer reduced telephone rates to persons over the age of sixty-five years; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2956) of Charles F. McNally for legislation to grant reduced rates on utility bills of at least fifty per cent to elderly persons whose income does not exceed five thousand dollars and a reduced rate of twenty-five per cent to all other elderly persons; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3325) of Brian J. Donnelly that certain persons over the age of sixty-five years be granted a reduced rate by gas, electric and telephone companies; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4608) of Charles Robert Doyle that persons sixty-five years of age or over be entitled to reduced rates for gas, electricity and telephone services; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5170) of Angelo Cataldo for legislation to establish a board of registration of travel agents for the purpose of regulating travel agents and promoting truth in travel, report recommending that the accompanying order (House, No. 5609) ought to be adopted.

For the committee,

ROBERT B. AMBLER.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

*Ordered*, That the Committee on Government regulations be authorized to sit during the recess of the General Court for the purpose of making an investigation and study of the subject matter of current house documents numbered 44, increasing public representation of membership and strengthening the powers of the boards of registration; 437, that gas, electric or telephone companies be required to grant a reduced rate of at least fifty per cent to elderly persons; 1792, that telephone companies be required to offer reduced telephone rates to persons over the age of sixty-five years; 2956, to grant reduced rates on utility bills of at least fifty percent to elderly persons whose income does not exceed five thousand dollars and a reduced rate of twenty-five percent to all other elderly persons; 3325, that certain persons over the age of sixty-five years be granted a reduced rate by gas, electric and telephone companies; 4608, persons sixty-five years of age or over be entitled to reduced rates for gas, electricity and telephone services; and 5170, to establish a board of registration of travel agents for the purpose of regulating travel agents and promoting truth in travel.

Said committee shall be provided with quarters in the state house or elsewhere, may hold public hearings, may travel within the Commonwealth, and may expend for clerical and other services and expenses such sums as may be appropriated therefor. Said committee shall report to the General Court the results of its investigation and study, and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry such recommendations into effect by filing the same with the clerk of the house of representatives on or before the first Wednesday of January, nineteen hundred and seventy-eight.