

SENATE No. 1564

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SENATE, May 9, 1978.

The committee on Human Services and Elderly Affairs, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 478) of William R. Keating and William M. Bulger for legislation to establish a program of foster homes for adults; the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 484) of Mary L. Fonseca for legislation to require a special accounting of the special needs funds allocated to welfare, medicare or general relief recipients in nursing homes; the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2937) of Richard P. Roche and another that the Department of Elder Affairs be directed to establish a program of senior adult protective services; and the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 5028) of Francis C. Lapointe, Kenneth M. Lemanski, Dennis J. Baker and Timothy A. Bassett for legislation relative to the regulations of home care;; reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 1564).

For the Committee,

JACK H. BACKMAN

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT FOSTER HOME PROGRAM FOR AGED AND DISABLED ADULTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 The department of public welfare is hereby authorized and
2 directed to establish a pilot foster home program for persons
3 who, due to age or disability, are incapable of living in a home
4 setting without the presence and assistance of another person
5 in the home.

6 The department shall promulgate rules and regulations to
7 implement the provisions of this act. Said rules and regula-
8 tions shall establish Eligibility criteria for aged and disabled
9 residents of foster homes; eligibility criteria for the foster
10 homes, including but not limited to, the number of elderly
11 and disabled residents per home, the training and other quali-
12 fications for persons providing foster home care, requirements
13 regarding the nutritional and personal care services rendered
14 in a foster home, and health, fire, safety and space require-
15 ments for foster homes; and requirements regarding the
16 medical supervision of foster home residents by a hospital or
17 clinic licensed under the provisions of chapter one hundred
18 eleven of the general laws.

19 The department shall investigate all potential sources of
20 federal funding for such foster home care and shall take all
21 necessary steps to secure federal funds available for the pro-
22 gram.

23 The department shall at the outset of the program estab-
24 lish criteria to evaluate the program's cost-effectiveness and
25 life enhancement features compared to level three long term
26 facilities and other alternative modes of care.

27 On or before May 31, 1980, the department shall report its
28 findings to the clerk of the house of representatives and shall
29 recommend to the legislature whether the program should be
30 extended, altered or eliminated.