

HOUSE No. 1297

By Mrs. Alexander of Beverly, petition of Frances F. Alexander and Frederick E. Berry that the Department of Public Health be directed to receive complaints of patients at nursing homes. Health Care.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE COMPLAINTS OF NURSING HOME PATIENTS.

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 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting
2 after section 70E the following three sections: —

3 Section 70F. The department of public health shall receive
4 complaints from patients at nursing homes or their relatives and
5 upon investigation, may order a nursing home to take corrective
6 action within ten days of such order.

7 Section 70G. Every nursing home shall make a record of each
8 time a patient is required to be physically restrained and keep such
9 record with the patient's medical record. Such record shall include
10 the dates and times such restraint was in effect.

11 Section 70H. Every nursing home aggrieved by an order
12 entered by the department of public health pursuant to section
13 seventy F may appeal to the secretary of human affairs, who in
14 his discretion, may modify or rescind such order.

