

HOUSE No. 1874

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Martin J. Walsh

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to quality care services fund.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Martin J. Walsh

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

13th Suffolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1863 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO QUALITY CARE SERVICES FUND.

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. For a reserve to adjust the wages, compensation or salary and associated
2 employee-related costs to non-managerial personnel who are employed by private human service
3 providers that deliver human and social services under contracts with departments within the
4 executive office of health and human services or the executive office of elder affairs, private
5 human services providers who deliver non-residential mental health and developmental disability
6 services and receive non-contractual payments through the State Medicaid program, or private
7 human service providers that deliver human and social services under contracts with managed
8 care mental health organizations under the MassHealth program; provided, that the secretary of
9 administration and finance may allocate the funds appropriated in this item to the departments in
10 order to implement this initiative; provided further, that the executive office of health and human
11 services and the executive office of elder affairs shall condition the expenditure of the reserve
12 upon assurances that, to be eligible to receive payments from the reserve, a provider must have a
13 legally binding written commitment with its employees or their representative to adjust wages
14 and other compensation for employees who complete training/education programs to improve the
15 quality of care they deliver, in the amounts provided by the reserve, and a mechanism available to
16 eligible employees to enforce the adjustments that is expeditious, low-cost, and utilizes a neutral
17 decision-maker, and must have provided notice of the commitments and the enforcement
18 mechanism to all its employees; provided further, that no funds from this item shall be allocated
19 to contracts for early education and care services; provided further, that no funds shall be
20 allocated from this item to contracts funded exclusively by federal grants; provided further, that
21 the total fiscal year 2008 cost of salary adjustments and any other associated employee costs
22 authorized hereunder shall not exceed \$20,000,000; provided further, that the executive office
23 shall submit an allocation schedule to the house and senate committees on ways and means not
24 less than 30 days after disbursement of funds; provided further, that the annualized cost of the

25 adjustments in fiscal year 2009 shall not exceed the amount appropriated herein; and provided
26 further that the raises provided through this item shall not exceed \$2 per hour per employee.