

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1967**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Sean Garballey***

*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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to standardize the regulation of skilled nursing facilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/18/2013</i>
<i>Carlo Basile</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>	
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Carlos Henriquez</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>	
<i>Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	
<i>Christine E. Canavan</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>	
<i>Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>	
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>	
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>	
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>	

<i>Thomas P. Conroy</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Jay R. Kaufman</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Barry R. Finegold</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Robert F. Fennell</i>	<i>10th Essex</i>	
<i>Theodore C. Speliotis</i>	<i>13th Essex</i>	
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1967**

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By Mr. Garballey of Arlington, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1967) of Sean Garballey and others that the Department of Public Health be directed to establish a formal public hearing process prior to certain licensing and ownership of nursing home facilities decisions. Public Health.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
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An Act to standardize the regulation of skilled nursing facilities.

*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: The Department of Public Health shall amend the Licensure Procedure and  
2 Suitability Requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities in Massachusetts regulations (105 CMR  
3 153). Such amendment shall establish a formal and open public hearing process that would  
4 precede approval of and allow for public input on any application for a license, notice of intent  
5 for transfer of ownership or notice of intent to sell or close any skilled nursing facility whether  
6 for-profit or non-profit.

7           SECTION 2: The Department of Public Health, the Center for Health Information &  
8 Analysis, the Office of Elder Affairs, the Office of Medicaid and the Office of the Attorney  
9 General shall work together with all interested stakeholders to review and develop policy  
10 recommendations for improvements to the licensing of long term care facilities in the  
11 Commonwealth (105 CMR 150; 105 CMR 153), regulations concerning standard payments and  
12 cost reporting by nursing facilities (114.2 CMR 600) and the requirements for the provision of  
13 nursing-facility services under MassHealth (130 CMR 456). Such recommendations shall  
14 include proposed amendments to these regulations to:

15           a)       Provide more transparent, timely and complete public access to information  
16 concerning skilled nursing facility licensing, reimbursement and quality care standards; and

17           b)       Improve the regulation and public reporting of information concerning transfers  
18 of licenses for, new ownership of, and the closure of skilled nursing facility licenses; and

19           c)     Otherwise enhance the regulation of skilled nursing facilities in the  
20   Commonwealth.