

HOUSE No. 2297

By Mr. Costello of Newburyport, petition of Michael A. Costello relative to automatic sprinkler systems in sober houses for recovering substance abusers. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT FURTHER PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION IN SOBER HOUSING.

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. Chapter 140 of the General Laws, as appearing in
2 the 2000 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out Section
3 22 and inserting in place thereof the following section:—

4 Section 22. “Lodging house”, as used in sections twenty-two to
5 thirty-one, inclusive, shall mean a house where lodgings are let to
6 four or more persons not within the second degree of kindred to the
7 person conducting it, and shall include fraternity houses and dormi-
8 tories of educational institutions, but shall not include dormitories of
9 charitable or philanthropic institutions or convalescent or nursing
10 homes licensed, or group residences licensed or regulated by agen-
11 cies of the commonwealth under section seventy-one of chapter one
12 hundred and eleven or rest homes so licensed, or homes occupied by
13 recovering alcoholics or drug addicts, who are deemed handicapped
14 pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 3602, and who are living together as a single
15 housekeeping unit.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 148 of the General Laws, as appearing in
2 the 2000 Official Edition, is hereby amended by deleting the second
3 paragraph of Section 26H and inserting in place thereof the
4 following paragraph:—

5 For the purpose of this section “lodging house” or “boarding
6 house” shall mean a house where lodgings are let to six or more per-
7 sons not within the second degree of kindred to the person con-
8 ducting it, but shall not include fraternity houses or dormitories, rest

9 homes or group residences licensed or regulated by agencies of the
10 Commonwealth, or homes occupied by recovering alcoholics or
11 drug addicts, who are deemed handicapped pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §
12 3602, and who are living together as a single housekeeping unit.