

Senate, No. 425

IN THE YEAR OF TWO THOUSAND AND SEVEN

AN ACT AN ACT RELATIVE TO DEMENTIA SPECIAL CARE UNITS IN LONG-TERM CARE 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. Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose,
2 which is forthwith to provide for dementia special care units in long-term care facilities,
3 therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation
4 of the public health.

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

7 SECTION 1. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 71B
8 the following section:-

9 Section 71C. (a) A licensee under section 71 that holds itself out to the public or advertises that
10 it is a provider of specialized services and programming for special care units in long-term care
11 facilities.

12 (b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department of public health,
13 in consultation with the Alzheimer's Association of Massachusetts and representatives from the
14 nursing home provider community, shall adopt regulations for dementia special care units. The
15 regulations shall include, but not be limited to, guidelines for establishing a physical
16 environment that reflects the elements of therapeutic Alzheimer's care, design,
17 minimum training and continuing education requirements for direct and indirect care staff and
18 requirements for program policies and procedures. The Office of Medicaid shall recognize its
19 share of the costs of meeting the requirements of this act.

20 SECTION 2. The department of public health shall adopt its initial regulations to implement
21 this act not later than January 1, 2009.

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

The undersigned, citizen of _____, respectfully petitions for the passage of the accompanying bill and for legislation.

RELATIVE TO DEMENTIA SPECIAL CARE UNITS IN LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES.

Marc Pacheco(MRP0)
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First Plymouth and Bristol
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