

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 539**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Christine E. Canavan and Garrett J. Bradley*

*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 providing for Alzheimer's and related disorders education and training for employees of assisted-living facilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Christine E. Canavan</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Garrett J. Bradley</i>	<i>3rd Plymouth</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 539**

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By Representatives Canavan of Brockton and Bradley of Hingham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 539) of Christine E. Canavan and others for legislation to provide education and training concerning Alzheimer's and related disorders to employees of assisted-living facilities. Elder Affairs.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen  
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An Act providing for Alzheimer's and related disorders education and training for employees of assisted-living 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 15 of chapter 19D of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by striking out subsection (c) and inserting in place thereof the following 2  
3 subsections:-

4 (c) The executive office of health and human services, in consultation with the  
5 department, the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association, Massachusetts/New  
6 Hampshire Chapter, Inc. and representatives from the assisted living provider community shall  
7 require ongoing in-service education and training for assisted living provider personnel,  
8 including, but not limited to, personnel providing direct personal care, on the specialized needs  
9 of residents with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders including, but not limited to:

- 10 1) the physical and mental side effects related to Alzheimer's and related disorders,  
11 such as unsteady gait, urinary tract infection, confusion, mood swings and isolation;
- 12 2) activities programs that provide Alzheimer's and related disorders specific  
13 activities;
- 14 3) methods for staff to directly assist Alzheimer's and related disorders residents in  
15 walking or assisting after a fall;
- 16 4) anti-wandering methods and promoting a safe environment; and
- 17 5) avoidance of emergency room visits.

18           The in-service education and training required in this subsection shall be a minimum of 3  
19 hours per year.

20           A certified assisted living residence shall meet the minimum standards set forth in this  
21 subsection. In conjunction with a biennial review pursuant to section 5, the department, in  
22 consultation with the executive office, shall conduct a review of all assisted living residences for  
23 compliance with this subsection. If the department finds that the sponsor is not in compliance, it  
24 shall issue a report with a corrective plan for the sponsor. A copy of the report and plan shall be  
25 delivered to the sponsor. The sponsor shall have the right to submit a written response to such  
26 notice within 10 days after receipt thereof. The executive office shall establish an administrative  
27 procedure by regulation for resolving disputes regarding findings prior to final action. All  
28 completed reports, responses, corrective plans and notices of final action may be made available  
29 to the public at the executive office of the secretary during business hours together with the  
30 responses of the sponsors thereto.

31           (d) The department shall promulgate regulations pursuant to subsections (a) and (b)  
32 concerning the education, training and experience of the manager and staff, including the service  
33 coordinator, necessary to carry out the purposes and requirements of this chapter. Such  
34 education and training shall be a minimum of 12 hours per year; provided, that such hours shall  
35 include a minimum of 3 hours of Alzheimer's and related disorders education and training  
36 provided for in subsection (c).