

**SENATE . . . . . No. 00272**

---

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESENTED BY:

***Patricia D. Jehlen***

\_\_\_\_\_

*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 promoting the development of small house nursing homes in Massachusetts.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>
<i>Alice K. Wolf</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Christine E. Canavan</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	<i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 00272**

By Ms. Jehlen, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 272) of Spilka, Smizik, Canavan and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote the development of small house nursing homes in the Commonwealth [Joint Committee on Elder Affairs].

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE  
□ HOUSE  
□ , NO. 2147 OF 2009-2010.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**

An Act promoting the development of small house nursing homes in Massachusetts.

*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 the purposes of this act, “small house nursing home” means a nursing  
2 home licensed under Section 72 of Chapter 111 of the General Laws, that 1) consists of one or  
3 more units designed and modeled as a private home including residential kitchen and living areas  
4 which house no more than fourteen individuals in each unit, 2) includes only private rooms and  
5 bathrooms, 3) establishes a self-directed model of care for residents that incorporates  
6 collaborative decision making by residents and staff, 4) provide for a universal worker approach  
7 to resident care that is organized to support and empower all staff to respond to the needs and  
8 desires of residents; and 6) provides for consistent staff assignments.

9           Section 2. There is hereby established a task force on the Development of Small House  
10 Nursing Homes. The task force is charged with studying and recommending strategies to  
11 promote the development of small house nursing homes in Massachusetts which include but  
12 shall not be limited to:

13           • the establishment of an add-on to rates of reimbursement for nursing facilities by the  
14 Division of Health Care Finance and Policy that develop and operate small house nursing homes  
15 to reflect the additional capital costs required in the construction of a small house nursing home.

16           • The establishment of no or low-cost loans to develop small house nursing homes

17           • Identification of other regulatory barriers that impede the ability to develop and operate  
18 small house nursing homes

19           The task force shall be chaired by the Director of the Division of Health Care Safety and  
20 Quality at the Department of Public Health, the commissioner of the Division of Health Care  
21 Finance and Policy or a designee, the Director of MassHealth or a designee, the Secretary of  
22 Elder Affairs, or a designee, the House and Senate chairs of the Committee on Elder Affairs, at  
23 least one architect that has been involved with the development of a small house nursing home,  
24 at least two providers that have developed or in the process of developing/operating small house  
25 nursing homes, and the president of LeadingAge Massachusetts or a designee.

26           The Task Force shall make a report with its recommendations to the Chairs of Ways and  
27 Means and to the Secretary of Health and Human Services by December 31, 2011.