

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

96 AUG 23 AM 11:39

CAMBRIDGE MA:

16
August 8, 1996

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council:

For the past eight years I have been attempting to interest the City Council in doing something to improve the conditions faced by senior citizens in nursing homes.

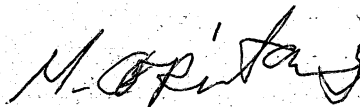
Currently, state law does not require air conditioners for nursing homes built before 1960. After trying at the State House to get my representatives to change this law statewide, I was finally told that such a bill would go nowhere, and that I should try for a home rule petition.

Last year, Councillor Duehay filed an order adopted by the City Council requesting that such a home rule petition be drafted. It never happened. This year, Councillor Duehay filed an order adopted by the City Council to have the Law Department draft an ordinance to require air conditioning in all Cambridge nursing homes.

I have no expectation that this will be done either. I have invited all of you to visit one of these non-air conditioned nursing homes on a hot summer day to see for yourselves what your senior citizens experience. None of you have done this. I have contacted you all repeatedly about this. As you know, you can contact me anytime if you have any questions. My doctors have told me that I risk my health by continuing to fight for decent conditions for senior citizens in nursing homes.

I am at the end of my patience and respect. What will it take to get you to do something about this?

Hopefully yours,



Mr. George Copitas
237 Franklin Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

Consent Communication #16 5-419

Communication was received from George Copitas, transmitting his concerns to improved the conditions faced by senior citizens in Cambridge nursing homes.

In City Council September 9, 1996.

Placed on file