

HOUSE No. 2133

By Mr. Kennedy of Brockton, petition of Thomas P. Kennedy relative to the imposition of a penalty for impersonating a medical professional. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO TRUTH IN ADVERTISING.

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 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the
2 contrary it shall be unlawful for any person who is not a medical
3 doctor, doctor of osteopathic medicine, doctor of dental surgery, or
4 doctor of dental medicine to make any statement, or engage in any
5 act, that deceives or misleads the public or a prospective or current
6 patient that such person is a medical doctor, doctor of osteopathic
7 medicine, doctor of dental surgery or doctor of dental medicine or
8 has the same or equivalent education skills or training. Such decep-
9 tive or misleading statements or acts shall include advertising in any
10 medium, making false statement regarding the education, skills,
11 training or licensure of such person or in any other way describing
12 such person's profession, skills, training experience, education or
13 licensure in a fashion that causes the public, a potential patient or
14 current patient to believe that such person is a medical doctor, doctor
15 of osteopathic medicine, doctor of dental surgery or doctor of dental
16 medicine.

1 SECTION 2. The attorney general shall develop fines and penal-
2 ties for violation of section 1 of this act.