

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 2136

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By Mr. Kennedy of Brockton, petition of Thomas P. Kennedy relative to the definition of “surgery”. Public Health.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE DEFINITION OF SURGERY.

*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 5I of chapter 112 of the General Laws, as appearing in the  
2 2000 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end  
3 thereof the following:  
4 For the purposes of this chapter “surgery” shall be defined as a  
5 diagnostic, palliative or therapeutic treatment of conditions or  
6 disease processes by using instruments including lasers, ionizing  
7 radiation, scalpels, probes and needles in which human tissue is cut,  
8 burned, vaporized, frozen, sutured, probed, manipulated by closed  
9 reduction for major dislocations and fractures, or otherwise altered  
10 by any mechanical, thermal or chemical means. This definition is  
11 not intended to include ministrations that are part of routine bodily  
12 hygiene such as trimming of hair or nails, or infringe on the scope of  
13 practice of those already licensed to perform similar limited proce-  
14 dures such as electrolysis, tattooing, and piercing.