

HOUSE No. 2271

By Mr. Wallace of Boston, petition of Brian P. Wallace regulating the reporting of opioid overdoses. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT REGULATING THE REPORTING OF OPIOID OVERDOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 112 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Offi-
2 cial Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following section after
3 Section 12G:—

4 “SECTION 12G½. Every physician attending or treating a case
5 of heroin or other opioid overdose shall report such case to the
6 department of public health for public health purposes within
7 twenty-four hours. Whenever any such case is treated in a hospital,
8 clinic or other institution, the administrator, manager, or other person
9 in charge thereof shall report such case to the commissioner of
10 public health within twenty-four hours. The reports made pursuant
11 to this section shall not include individual identifying information
12 and may include the following demographic characteristics as they
13 pertain to the patient:— city, Zip Code + 4 Code, age, gender, race
14 and drug involved; shall be confidential; and shall not be a public
15 record as defined by Section 7 of Chapter 4. The department of
16 public health shall promulgate regulations to carry out the provisions
17 of this section. Whoever violates any provision of this section shall
18 be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars or more than one
19 hundred dollars.”