

HOUSE No. 1080

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:
Peter J. Koutoujian

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 relative to manufacturers coupons and rebates.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Peter J. Koutoujian	10th Middlesex
Christine E. Canavan	10th Plymouth
Walter F. Timilty	7th Norfolk
Bruce E. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex
Susan C. Fargo	Third Middlesex
Elizabeth Poirier	14th Bristol
Stephen R. Canessa	12th Bristol

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1147 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
In the Year Two Thousand and Nine
—————

AN ACT RELATIVE TO MANUFACTURERS COUPONS AND REBATES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 41 of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by deleting line 21 and inserting in its place the following: -- in the provision of covered items or services, or to a discount, rebate or other reduction in price on a prescription drug or a limited time free supply of a prescription drug that is made available to an individual, if such is provided directly or electronically by a health provider to the individual or through a so-called “point of sale” or “mail-in” coupon rebate, or through similar means□ This section does not negate the need for a written prescription as otherwise required by law.

□□□□□□□□□□ For purposes of the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 and regulations issued thereunder, nothing in this section shall be deemed to require or allow the use or disclosure of health information in any manner that does not otherwise comply with such Act or such regulations.

SECTION 2□ Section 3 of chapter 175H of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following two paragraphs: --

□□□□□□□□□□ This section shall not apply to a discount, rebate or other reduction in price on a prescription drug or a limited time free supply of a prescription drug that is made available to an individual, if such is provided directly or electronically by a health provider to the individual or through a so-called “point of sale” or “mail-in” coupon rebate, or through similar means; provided, however, that this section does not negate the need for a written prescription as otherwise required by law, nor is it intended to constrain a carrier or a health maintenance organization, as those terms are defined in chapter 118G, with regard to how its plan design will treat such discounts, rebates or coupons.

□□□□□□□□□□ For purposes of the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 and regulations issued thereunder, nothing in this section shall be deemed to require or allow the use or disclosure of health information in any manner that does not otherwise comply with such Act or such regulations.