

SENATE NO. 203

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE SALE AND USE OF MICROWAVE OVENS

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is forthwith across the nation and here in the commonwealth, a rash of violence has occurred to small children and animals involving the use of the residential microwave oven, and; *Whereas*, upon its passage this act shall be referred to as “Jessie’s Law”, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*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 contrary, the office of
2 consumer affairs and business regulations shall establish minimum safety requirements for all
3 microwave ovens sold and operated in the commonwealth including but not limited to the
4 following:
- 5 (i) a microwave oven must not be large enough to be able to fit an infant child or small animal
6 into;
 - 7 (ii) a microwave oven must not operate at more than 500 watts;
 - 8 (iii) all microwave ovens sold in the commonwealth must be equipped with a motion sensor in
9 the oven designed to detect a living person or animal and immediately turn off the cooking
10 mechanism;
 - 11 (iv) all microwave ovens sold in the commonwealth must pass a drop test to ensure no leakage
12 of radiation;

- 13 (v) all microwave ovens in the commonwealth must be registered and equipped with a locking
14 device;
- 15 (vi) any microwave oven purchased on the internet to be operated in the commonwealth must
16 conform to Massachusetts regulations;
- 17 (vii) no microwave oven may be sold at a yard sale or flea market;
- 18 (viii) only one microwave oven permitted per residence;
- 19 (ix) any residence equipped with an oven is prohibited from possessing a microwave oven;
- 20 (x) anyone under the age of 18 is prohibited from operating a microwave oven;
- 21 (xi) all microwave ovens sold in the commonwealth must only be done so by a licensed dealer;
22 and
- 23 (xii) a buyer of a microwave oven must sign a document at time of sale affirming they know
24 and understand the requirements herein.