

HOUSE No. 3995

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, February 11, 2016.

The committee on Public Health to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1960) of Denise C. Garlick and others relative to the safe handling of certain hazardous drugs, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 3995) ought to pass.

For the committee,

KATE HOGAN.

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to the safe handling of hazardous drugs.

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. Chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding after section 235, the following new section:-

3 Section 236. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following
4 meanings:—

5 “Antineoplastic drug”, a chemotherapeutic agent that controls or kills cancer cells.

6 “Hazardous drugs”, shall include any drug identified by the national institute for
7 occupational safety and health at the centers for disease control or any drug that meets at least
8 one of the following six criteria: Carcinogenicity, teratogenicity or developmental toxicity,
9 reproductive toxicity in humans, organ toxicity at low doses in humans or animals, genotoxicity,
10 or new drugs that mimic existing hazardous drugs in structure of toxicity.

11 (b) The Department of Public Health shall promulgate regulations for the handling of
12 antineoplastic and other hazardous drugs in health care facilities. Said regulations shall consider

13 input from hospitals, organizations representing health care personnel, other stakeholders and
14 shall consider reasonable time for facilities to implement new regulations. The regulations will
15 be consistent with provisions adopted by the national institute for occupational safety and
16 health's 2004 alert on preventing occupational exposures to antineoplastic and other hazardous
17 drugs in health care settings and updates. The department's regulations may incorporate updates
18 and changes to the institute's guidelines as made by the centers for disease control and
19 prevention. The department may by regulation establish enforcement procedures and fines for
20 violations of the provisions of this section.